



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

MAY 2019

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IMPORTANT DATES

May 4, 2019—The First District SAL Convention in the Stewartville Post 164 clubrooms at 9:00 AM.

May 18, 2019—The First District American Legion Convention at Stewartville. More info in the Call to Conferences elsewhere in this newsletter.

May 26, 2019—Memorial Day Program and golf cart dedication at the Preston Military Cemetery.

May 27, 2019—Memorial Day, Please try and attend a program in your area.

2019 Rochester Stand Down—June 27, 2019 from 2 to 7 PM at Soldiers Field in Rochester. More info to come next month.

From Your Adjutant's Desk

Just a couple of items;

- 1) It is time to get your post reports done and sent into Department one of which is your Post Consolidated Report which is very important to get filled out. If you need help please contact me .
- 2) The District is looking for color guards and floats or vehicles to be in the Department Parade on July 12 in Willmar, MN please contact Richard Skillestad at 507-250-5329 if you might be interested.

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2019 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, Gary Miller, do hereby call a convention of the First District to convene at Stewartville, Minnesota, Saturday May 18, 2019.

The business sessions of the convention will be held at Stewartville Post 164, 1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville, MN, commencing at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 18th 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
Gary Miller

Delegate Certification to the First District Convention in Stewartville, Minnesota, May 18, 2019, 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 _____

FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION

MAY 18, 2019

POST 164, STEWARTVILLE, MN

The First District American Legion Convention will be held at post 164 in Stewartville, MN. Please fill out this form and before May 6, 2019 to;

Tammy Theobald
Convention Registration
610 12th Ave NE
Stewartville, MN 55976

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

_____ Pre- registration Fee - \$10.00 (registration at the door will be \$12.00)

_____ Saturday lunch - \$8.00 (Beef Stroganoff, green beans, garlic toast and assorted bars)

Total Amount _____

Make the checks out to "Stewartville American Legion" and send to the address above.

NAME _____ **PHONE** _____/_____/_____

ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____ **ZIP** _____

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

Place an "X" by your organization and fill out your organization number.

Legion____ **Post #**____ **Auxiliary**____ **Unit #** _____ **ALR**____ **Chapter #**_____

You must register as a delegate, alternate or guest if you are attending the convention.

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

-----cut off-----

Hotel information for The First District Convention in Stewartville

America's Stay Inn in Stewartville (about 2 blocks from the Legion)

Phone: 507-533-4747 or 1-877- 858-9382

e-mail: americasstayinn@gmail.com

CONVENTION BOOK ADVERTISING INFORMATION

If your Post, Unit, Squadron or Legion Riders Chapter is interested in advertising in the First District Convention book, the rates are as follows:

Full Page Ad ----- \$100.00

Half Page Ad ----- \$50.00

Quarter Page Ad ----- \$25.00

Send your information or for more information contact: Roger Barsness
6130 31st Ave SW
Rochester, MN 55902
Phone 507-250-1265
Email rogerbarsness@aol.com

Make checks payable to : Stewartville American Legion Post 164

He needs your information no later than April 15, 2019 in order to get the book ready and printed before the convention.

ENDORSEMENTS AND DELEGATE REQUESTS

Officer Endorsements

- Dale Wellik - District Commander
- Bill Goede - Finance Officer
- Mark Maloney - Area One Vice Commander
- Mike Parry - Area Two Vice Commander
- Mary Hanson - Area Four Vice Commander
- Larry Otto—Chaplain
- Jim Westby—Area Three Vice Commander

Delegate Requests

- Mary Hanson
- Gary Miller
- Chuck Stone
- Dale Wellik
- Myron Ehrich
- Richard Skillestad
- Chuck Kruger
- Sy Fix
- Les Shaunce
- Bill Goede
- Request to be an alternate James Kellogg

FROM YOUR LEGIONVILLE CHAIRMAN

Legionville is up and running this year with no bog. Let's make this be the best year get as many students signed up as possible. if you don't have gambling then check with the eagle clubs or elks or moose or any other group you know of. You are more than welcome to pay for a student yourself. There will be more to come. Need more information, call me or department, packets are being sent out or they may be in your post already.

FROM YOUR COMMANDER'S DESK

Good Day Dist. 1 Legion Family:

Just finished doing the latest membership, we have dropped down to 6th place, last year at this time we had 8,368 this year we are at 7,968. We are down a total of 400, I know we didn't lose 400 members this year to death (Yes, I know we lost too many) but why are we so far behind?? The year is just about done, so if you're going to get to your goal now is the time to do it!!

Also keep getting those reports in, we still need a lot of them. CPR report can be done on line, Officer's report needs to be in so we won't have to wait so long to get the district information book out. Plus all the other reports that need to be in to the state and district.

THANK YOU, to all that came to the 1st District Testimonial Dinner.

The prime rib was very good, other good food also, hope everyone had a good time, got picked on a little but it was OK, thanks for all the gifts and good wishes, everyone got back home safe and sound at least that's what they told me.

1st District Convention is coming up fast, May 18, 2019 in Stewartville starting at 08:30, so get your registration in now. Costs more at the door! By the way I did have to spend a week in the hospital foot is on the mend and should be ok buy the convention time or at least in a shoe that I can get around with. Good thing I didn't have to clean the snow off the walk no boot to fit over the bandage. Thank you to those that stopped in and cards, I didn't have Wayne put out any notice that's way a lot of you did not know.

Semper Fi,

Gary Miller

District 1 Commander

From your 1st District Legion Chaplain

To My Legion Family,

Sitting here on this sunny morning, preparing for the 1st District Legion's monthly newsletter, I'm kind of at a loss for words. And for those of you who know me, that is almost impossible!

It's hard to believe it has been a year since I became your chaplain; the year has really flown by. I must confess it's been a joy and a privilege to have served you and this organization. I look forward to serving another year as your 1st District Chaplain.

It's been a busy couple of months with all the meetings we've had; the weather has not always cooperated and some meetings were postponed and re-scheduled. We have survived and carry on!

Here's hoping each and everyone had a joyful and blessed Easter; and for my Jewish friends, a blessed Passover. As I've said before, spring time is a time for new beginnings. After a long winter, "new" is all around us. The grass will need to be mowed, farmers will be hard at it in their fields, "snow birds" are coming back from the south, and the other birds are making the northern migration. Soon the trees will be in full leaf and the days will become warmer and longer. It's the changing of the seasons. In Ecclesiastes 3, verse 1 it states, "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven." And it has been so since God spoke it into existence at the beginning. In 14th verse of Ecclesiastes 3 is say, "I know that everything God does will endure forever: nothing can be added to it and nothing can be taken from it. God does it so that people will revere Him."

So season change and we are blessed by them. This season of spring s a time of new birth, so let us, as Psalm 150 verse 6 says, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord."

Until next time, May God Bless and Keep You and Yours,

Larry H. Otto

1st District Chaplain

FROM AREA ONE

It is with great pleasure and privilege to acknowledge, appreciate the efforts, and extend a huge thank you to the "WOW" counties (Winona-Olmsted-Wabasha) of Area 1 for placing the Area in District One as the Number 1 membership retention at 95.11% as we near year end. Also would like to extend a thank you and recognize Wabasha County for being the top county in District One with 101.82% of goal. These numbers are impressive and signifies, many Area One Post's spent many hours contacting veterans, encouraging them to renew their membership, and were aggressive in reaching out to others to improve the membership retention numbers. In addition as Vice-Commander, was busy visiting District Posts in providing membership and legislative bill updates. Meetings attended included one Department meeting at LeCenter #108; one District meeting at Eyota #551; and Post meetings at Lewiston #90, Plainview #179, & Kellogg #546. Also attended the Preston Military Cemetery Honor Guard squads' annual meeting to discuss updates and elect new board officers. Finally did attend one UVLC meeting where I was asked to provide an update on the Legion Act (S.504) and the seven gambling net reduction tax bills in committee.

FROM AREA TWO

Greetings to all American Legion family!

Hopefully the snow is now over so the spring can come in.

The district convention is May 18th in Stewartville. Get your registration in by May 6th so the post can do the planning for setting up. Reports are due and get them sent in to the proper place most can be done by E-mail. Don't forget about membership those last ones and there's always the new ones for the commanders pin. We also have officer elections and officer installations to be done, some have been done already.

Memorial day programs at all local posts, cemeteries, and schools, and Churches. Take part and Honor all those that gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. GOD BLESS THEM!!!

God Bless those that are serving now all around the world and keep them safe.

Keep up the good work.

Thank you for your willingness to help and your service.

Area two Vice commander,

FROM AREA FOUR

Hello American Legion Family,

No use talking about weather. So let's talk Legion projects and programs! Most Posts have finished their Boys and Girls State programs along with their Americanism Awards. Remember to do your Post Consolidated report. Maybe now is the time to put a bug in the schools ear about next year's programs such as the Oratorical Contest. Take the time and let National know we do a lot for Veterans and the community.

The Commander's dinner in Stewartville is coming up fast. Conventions are right around the corner and the change of Officers Sounds busy but challenging and fun. Remember to thank a veteran and I thank you right now!

Rollie Hanson, Area 4 vice Commander

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILIABLE

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

Important District Information

For anybody interested, the dedication of the Golf Cart that was donated to the Preston Cemetery as Le Shaunce's district commander's project will on Sunday, May 26, 2019 as part of the Memorial Day Program. The bands will begin playing at 1:30 pm with the program starting at 2:00 pm.

Les Shaunce - Past First District Commander

First District 2019 membership report for 4/24/2019 Bulletin # 43

POST	LOCATION	GOAL	PREV.	TURN IN	TOTAL	PERCENT	LEFT	Date
9	WINONA	573	535	0	535	93.37%	38	4/3/2019
90	LEWISTON	72	72	0	72	100.00%	0	4/17/2019
190	ST CHARLES	146	137	0	137	93.84%	9	3/20/2019
WINONA COUNTY TOTALS		791	744	0	744	94.06%	47	
50	WABASHA	230	224	0	224	97.39%	6	4/17/2019
110	LAKE CITY	144	150	0	150	104.17%	-6	4/10/2019
179	PLAINVIEW	186	166	0	166	89.25%	20	4/17/2019
546	KELLOGG	67	63	0	63	94.03%	4	1/9/2019
573	ELGIN	32	27	0	27	84.38%	5	4/10/2019
579	MILLVILLE	145	184	0	184	126.90%	-39	1/16/2019
588	MAZEPPA	74	73	1	74	100.00%	0	4/24/2019
WABASHA COUNTY TOTALS		878	887	1	888	101.14%	-10	
92	ROCHESTER	938	838	1	839	89.45%	99	4/24/2019
119	BYRON	150	136	0	136	90.67%	14	3/20/2019
164	STEWARTVILLE	290	289	0	289	99.66%	1	3/27/2019
446	ROCHESTER	18	14	0	14	77.78%	4	4/3/2019
551	EYOTA	184	181	0	181	98.37%	3	4/27/2019
OLMSTEAD COUNTY TOTALS		1580	1458	1	1459	92.34%	121	
AREA ONE TOTALS		3249	3089	2	3091	95.14%	158	
295	WEST CONCORD	60	48	0	48	80.00%	12	1/9/2019
330	HAYFIELD	215	197	0	197	91.63%	18	4/17/2019
333	KASSON	260	254	0	254	97.69%	6	4/17/2019
384	DODGE CENTER	81	69	0	69	85.19%	12	3/13/2019
422	CLAREMONT	32	29	0	29	90.63%	3	1/9/2019
DODGE COUNTY TOTALS		648	597	0	597	92.13%	51	
52	BLOOMING PRAIRIE	107	103	0	103	96.26%	4	4/17/2019
77	OWATONNA	510	477	0	477	93.53%	33	4/17/2019
296	ELLENDALE	34	35	0	35	102.94%	-1	12/12/2018
STEELE COUNTY TOTALS		651	615	0	615	94.47%	36	
75	NEW RICHLAND	54	56	0	56	103.70%	-2	2/27/2019
228	WASECA	320	310	3	313	97.81%	7	4/24/2019
281	JANESVILLE	99	92	0	92	92.93%	7	2/20/2019
587	WALDORF	25	26	0	26	104.00%	-1	1/9/2019
WASECA COUNTY TOTALS		498	484	3	487	97.79%	11	
AREA TWO TOTALS		1797	1696	3	1699	94.55%	98	
40	LANESBORO	106	109	0	109	102.83%	-3	4/10/2019
68	SPRING VALLEY	82	74	0	74	90.24%	8	1/9/2019
81	HARMONY	34	28	0	28	82.35%	6	12/12/2018
94	RUSHFORD	121	123	0	123	101.65%	-2	4/17/2019
166	PRESTON	68	65	0	65	95.59%	3	4/17/2019
197	CHATFIELD	51	49	0	49	96.08%	2	1/9/2019
299	MABEL	177	157	2	159	89.83%	18	4/24/2019
369	WYKOFF	19	17	0	17	89.47%	2	11/21/2018

8	400	CANTON	13	19	0	19	146.15%	-6	1/9/2019
	492	FOUNTAIN	16	14	0	14	87.50%	2	10/17/2018
	526	PETERSON	39	36	0	36	92.31%	3	3/20/2019
	544	OSTRANDER	28	21	0	21	75.00%	7	2/13/2019
	637	WHALEN	14	13	0	13	92.86%	1	9/19/2018
FILLMORE COUNTY TOTALS			768	725	2	727	94.66%	41	
	191	CALEDONIA	164	155	0	155	94.51%	9	4/10/2019
	249	SPRING GROVE	159	154	0	154	96.86%	5	4/10/2019
	423	HOUSTON	116	105	1	106	91.38%	10	4/24/2019
	498	HOKAH	21	20	0	20	95.24%	1	2/13/2019
	595	LA CRESCENT	320	286	0	286	89.38%	34	4/17/2019
HOUSTON COUNTY TOTALS			780	720	1	721	92.44%	59	
AREA THREE TOTALS			1548	1445	3	1448	93.54%	100	
	56	ALBERT LEA	627	571	0	571	91.07%	56	4/10/2019
	264	GLENVILLE	82	80	0	80	97.56%	2	3/20/2019
	266	HARTLAND	16	15	0	15	93.75%	1	9/12/2018
	317	EMMONS	63	55	0	55	87.30%	8	4/10/2019
	404	ALDEN	113	103	0	103	91.15%	10	3/20/2019
	552	FREEBORN	39	33	0	33	84.62%	6	2/13/2019
FREEBORN COUNTY TOTALS			940	857	0	857	91.17%	83	
	91	AUSTIN	547	496	2	498	91.04%	49	4/24/2019
	105	LYLE	90	85	1	86	95.56%	4	4/24/2019
	140	GRAND MEADOW	49	42	0	42	85.71%	7	3/20/2019
	146	ADAMS	214	188	0	188	87.85%	26	4/17/2019
	161	LEROY	62	50	0	50	80.65%	12	4/3/2019
	570	AUSTIN SPAM	7	9	0	9	128.57%	-2	10/31/2018
MOWER COUNTY TOTALS			969	870	3	873	90.09%	96	
AREA FOUR TOTALS			1909	1727	3	1730	90.62%	179	
	1111	DAKOTA	50	0	0	0	0.00%	50	8/1/2018
DISTRICT ONE TOTALS			8553	7957	11	7968	93.16%	585	

AREA	VICE	COMMANDERS							
AREA ONE			3249	3089	2	3091	95.14%	158	
AREA TWO			1797	1696	3	1699	94.55%	98	
AREA THREE			1548	1445	3	1448	93.54%	100	
AREA FOUR			1909	1727	3	1730	90.62%	179	

Place	District	Percentage
1st	District 3	95.61%
2nd	District 6	94.38%
3rd	District 2	93.55%
4th	District 5	93.25%
5th	District 10	93.24%
6th	District 1	93.16%
7th	District 7	92.64%
8th	District 9	92.39%
9th	District 8	92.10%
10th	District 4	91.85%
	At Large	92.43%

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

We keep playing tag this week we went down to 6th place. This week we had a turn in of 11 it takes us 86 to move up one percentage. We still have 585 members out there to get renewed and I know at this time of year it is very difficult but lets talk to these people and get this year's membership done before we start next years.

FROM YOUR LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN

Updates from Minnesota Legislature activities

Met with Rep Haley (21A) to discuss veteran's legislation in process, as well as to address the updates regarding the renaming of the Mississippi River Bridge in Red Wing to the Eisenhower Bridge of Valor.

Also testified on two legislative bills, SF 2358 (Anderson, B) (29) & HF 2086 (Ecklund) (3A) – Establishing a budget for military affairs and veterans affairs, specifically the section for funding (\$200,000/year) for Honor Guards in the biennium 2020-2021; regarding the annual budget line item for the Military Affairs and Veterans Affairs Departments. The summary of my testimony to support this program/service to the community would ask to increase funding to \$642,375.00/year budget line item for military organizations honor guard units for providing military and ceremonial honors for veterans and our flain addition, did propose that an alternative recommendation in allowing federally chartered veteran's organizations to raise and use their monies (100% of collected funds) received through donations, without huge payback to the government in the form of high taxes and high insurance costs; is to make ALL federally chartered veterans organization EXEMPT from all taxes (property, gambling, sales, excise, county, city, etc.) as well as EXEMPT from all other fees & license costs.

Updates from Congressional activities these past few months

From the District Legislative chair perspective, the American Legion NEC submitted an initiative last October to Congress which is now called the "Legion Act". If approved by Congress and signed by the President; the bill will mark a major piece of legislation that could create a new change in the Legion membership numbers. As your District Chair, it took many white papers, and discussions with legislators to have this bill move forward. Those veterans who served two or more years in between declared war periods, once the bill is passed, would be able to join the American Legion and also enroll into and receive VA benefits. Submitted is a copy of the American Legion National HQ enabling resolutions and the companion Congressional Senate Resolution; S. 504 bill as being heard in the Judiciary Committee. Both Minnesota Senators Klobucher and Smith have signed onto this bill. The staff of Klobucher & Smith are working on having this bill move up on the congressional hearing agenda.

American Legion National Headquarters Passes Two New Resolutions Expanding Membership Enrollment Period

News from the American Legion National Headquarters in the November 2018 DISPATCH announced the NEC approved two resolutions (#1 & #2) on Oct 17, 2018 and which both now requires approval by Congress for adoption.

The two Resolutions are: To adopt Resolution #1: "Unrecognized armed hostilities recognition, calls on Congress to declare the US has been continuously in a state of war from Dec 7, 1941 until now". The companion Resolution #2: "Unrecognized armed hostilities membership date change, which will change membership dates for the American Legion".

Once submitted, approved, hopefully submitted to, and adopted at this year's Department and National Conventions, this will allow our American Legion Post's to begin adding additional members who were unable to join the American Legion.

UPDATE: There is a Congressional Bill identified: Senate Resolution, S.504 on February 14, 2019 had two readings and referred to the Committee on Judiciary. The text of the Bill reads:

S. 504

To amend title 36, United States Code, to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirements for membership in The American Legion, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 14, 2019

Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. TILLIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 36, United States Code, to authorize The American Legion to determine the requirement's for membership in The American Legion, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act" or the "LEGION Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) Since the end of World War II, the Federal Government has designated specific periods of war, the dates of which are important for qualification for certain benefits or membership in veterans organizations established by Congress.
- (2) In between those recognized periods of war, during so-called peacetime eras, the United States military has been involved in not fewer than 12 known eras, which are unrecognized by the United States Government as periods of war, resulting in numerous United States personnel combat casualties.
- (3) Those 12 unrecognized war eras occurred at the direction of the then President of the United States, with full knowledge and consent of the then Congress.
- (4) The first of those 12 unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel was the Greek Civil War, fought in Greece from 1946 to 1949 between the army of the Government of Greece, supported by active military personnel of the United States and the United Kingdom, and the Democratic Army of Greece, the military branch of the Communist Party of Greece.
- (5) During the Greek Civil War, one member of the Armed Forces of the United States sacrificed his life in service to the United States, and five others suffered non-combat deaths.
- (6) The second of those unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel was the Chinese Civil War, which occurred during the aftermath of World War II.
- (7) During the Chinese Civil War, the United States military equipped, trained, transported, and supplied the Kuomintang-led Government of the Republic of China with approximately \$4,430,000,000 in its resistance to the Communist Party of China.
- (8) During the Chinese Civil War, 14 members of the Armed Forces of the United States sacrificed their lives in service to the United States, 150 non-combatants of the United States lost their lives in the war, and 51 were wounded, resulting in 215 United States military casualties.
- (9) The third unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel is known as the Cold War.
- (10) The Cold War was a period spanning from approximately 1947 until 1991 when the Soviet Union collapsed.
- (11) Although no direct large-scale military fighting occurred between the militaries of the United States and the Soviet Union, active United States military personnel served in multiple regional conflicts during the Cold War, resulting in the deaths of not fewer than 32 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States and not fewer than 12 additional casualties.
- (12) The fourth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel is known as the China Cold War.
- (13) The China Cold War started when the Kuomintang-led Government of the Republic of China retreated to the island of Taiwan and lasted until 1972, after President Richard Nixon conducted a landmark state visit to China.
- (14) During the military operations of the China Cold War, not fewer than 16 members of the Armed Forces of the United States sacrificed their lives in service to the United States.
- (15) The fifth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Lebanon Crisis of 1958, which involved more than 14,000 United States personnel and resulted in the death of one member of the Armed Forces who sacrificed his life in service to the United States and five non-combat deaths.
- (16) The sixth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961.
- (17) The Bay of Pigs invasion was a failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by a United States military group sponsored by the Central Intelligence Agency that resulted in not fewer than one death of a member of the Armed Forces who sacrificed his life in service to the United States and 19 non-combat deaths.
- (18) The seventh unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Cuban Missile Crisis, which took place between October 16 and October 28, 1962.
- (19) The Cuban Missile Crisis directly related to homeland protection against the deployment of a Soviet ballistic missile in Cuba.
- (20) During the Cuban Missile Crisis, one member of the Armed Forces sacrificed his life in service to the United States and 19 others died as non-combatants.
- (21) The eighth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Dominican Civil War in 1965.
- (22) Operations during the Dominican Civil War resulted in the deaths of 27 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States, 20 non-combat-related deaths, and 283 wounded.
- (23) The ninth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Iran Hostage Crisis, which lasted from November 4, 1979, through January 20, 1981.
- (24) The Iran Hostage Crisis involved military intervention by the United States which resulted in the deaths of 8 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to United States.
- (25) The tenth unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel was the Salvadoran Civil War.
- (26) The Salvadoran Civil War lasted more than 12 years, through the terms of two Presidential administrations of the United States, and resulted in the deaths of 22 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States, 15 non-combat deaths, and 35 other casualties.
- (27) The 11th unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel started on April 5, 1986, when the La Belle discotheque in West Berlin, Germany, was bombed, killing two United States soldiers and wounding 79 other members of the Armed Forces, which triggered what became known as the Libyan Conflict.

(28) The military operations of the Libyan Conflict included numerous air strikes by United States military forces and resulted in the deaths of two members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States.

(29) The Libyan Conflict led to the 12th unrecognized war era involving active United States military personnel, known collectively as the Persian Gulf Conflicts, which lasted from July 24, 1987, through September 26, 1988.

(30) The Persian Gulf Conflicts involved United States military missions to protect Kuwaiti-owned oil tankers which represented the largest United States naval convoy operation since World War II.

(31) The Persian Gulf Conflicts resulted in numerous military operations and the deaths of not fewer than 39 members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives in service to the United States and 31 wounded.

(32) Since the armistice that ended the hostilities of the Korean War on January 31, 1955, nearly 100 active United States military personnel have sacrificed their lives in service to the United States in South Korea, and more than 132 people of the United States have been wounded in-country.

(33) Since January 1, 1947, through all of the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel, not fewer than 778 combat and non-combat members of the Armed Forces have sacrificed their lives in service to the United States and not fewer than 797 have been wounded.

(34) Since January 1, 1947, the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel who were wounded and killed serving their country were administered under orders from the commander in chief and with the consent of Congress, proving that the United States has been conducting deadly wartime service to protect the country consistently since December 7, 1941.

(35) Eligibility for membership in The American Legion is determined by Congress through the establishment of specific dates of declared and officially recognized hostilities in which United States military personnel are on active service.

(36) The American Legion provides invaluable services to its members and supports the community of veterans who sacrificed in service of the United States.

(37) Membership in The American Legion allows veterans to engage in public service activities, such as supporting Boys and Girls State and Nation, youth mentorship programs, and benefit assistance, career fairs, and employment assistance for veterans.

(38) The American Legion has gone on record as supporting the 12 unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel since the beginning of World War II.

(39) The American Legion has aided, assisted, and comforted the families of the men and women who were called to serve or volunteered to serve during all of the unrecognized war eras and continues to provide support to veterans of those eras.

(40) The American Legion has commended the heroic actions of all military personnel who risked their lives in defense of freedom during each of the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that, in accordance with the history, tradition, and purposes of The American Legion, it is fair, proper, and reasonable that the privilege of membership in The American Legion should be extended to all military personnel who served on active military duty during all of the unrecognized war eras involving active United States military personnel.

SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION.

Section 21703(1)(A) of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in clause (vi), by striking “or”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(viii) such other beginning dates through such other ending dates as are provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation; or”.

Respectively submitted

Andru Peters

District One

Legislative Committee Chair;

Below left—Austin Spam Post 570 Commander & Adjutant

Below right—Vice Commander Wellik installing Spam officers



PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR BLOOD REPORT AND SEND TO MYRON EHRICH AT

220 Irvin St - West Concord, MN 55985

(should have received yours in a Department mailing)

**2019 AMERICAN LEGION
POST BLOOD DONATION REQUEST**

TO: Post Adjutants or Post Blood Chairman

This report is for dates January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. Please answer the following questions and return by May 1, 2019 to your District Blood Chairman.

1. Number of Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members donating blood during this time period _____.
2. Total number units of blood donated by Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members during this time period _____.
3. Did your Post sponsor a Bloodmobile/Blood drive? YES _____ NO _____.
If yes, total of units donated through your efforts _____.
4. Are these totals estimated? YES _____ NO _____.
5. Total Units of Blood Donations _____

Please take the time to fill this out and get credit for what your Post is doing. Also, please fill in the Blood Donor Program section on the yearly Consolidated Post Report. Last year it was item 14 & 15 under National Security.

POST NUMBER _____ DISTRICT _____

POST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

YOUR NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____ TITLE _____

YOUR ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

**PLEASE RETURN TO DISTRICT BLOOD CHAIRMAN BY MAY 1, 2019.
CHAIRMAN ARE LISTED ON THE BACK OF THIS PAGE.**

OPTIONAL PAGE

This is an optional second page of the blood program report. Please fill out this page if the number of units of blood has, or could in the future, increase. Keep in mind that, with all the injured service men and women coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan, we will need more blood.

Does your Post participate in a blood program? YES _____ NO _____

If so, do you think an additional drive per year (or more) would be possible? YES _____ NO _____

If not, would you be interested in starting a new location? YES _____ NO _____

If not, would you be interested in helping with a drive in your community? (Such as providing space for the drive or helping with the refreshments) YES _____ NO _____

A suggestion for any Post/Unit/SAL that is interested in some expansion of their activity would be to contact the County Health Nurse. Also let your District Blood Program Chairman know of your interest.



Color Guards at Commander Miller's testimonial

FIRST DISTRICT AUXILIARY NEWS



Auxiliary Contacts

President

Michelle Weaver
1303 Kane St, Lacrosse, WI 54603
608-519-8311 or 608-881-9049
Weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

Secretary

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

Membership / First Vice

Wanda Prescher
3321 Vista View Ct SW
Rochester, MN 55902
507-280-4027
W.prescher@kmwb.net

Treasurer

Audrey Farnsworth
302 1st St E, Stewartville, MN 55976
507-533-4454
harlee@charter.net

Spring is finally arrived it seems and it's beautiful.

Thank you to everyone that attended the 1st District American Legion Family Testimonial it was wonderful to see everyone. Thank you to Eyota Post 551 for hosting.

Our District Convention will be held May 18th in Stewartville looking forward to a good turnout. Our District chairman will be reporting the past year and what the units have done to support our veterans and their families.

There have been questions on what Poppy Funds can be used for hoping the following information will be helpful.

“The Five Allowable Uses of Poppy Funds, as adopted by The American Legion National Executive Committee in 2014 Poppy funds CAN be used for:

1. For the rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917;
2. For the welfare of the families of veterans of the above-named period;
3. For the rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals;
4. For the welfare of veterans, active military personnel, and the families of veterans and active military personnel of the above-named period where financial and medical need is evident;
5. For the purchase of poppy kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies and poppy items that will be distributed for donations to the Poppy fund”

Michelle Weaver

1st District President

Weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

Auxiliary Call to Convention

The annual First District of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota is hereby called. It is to be held in Stewartville, Minnesota on Saturday May 18, 2019. Auxiliary session will be held at the Stewartville Sportsman's Club, 1735 County Road 6 SW, Stewartville, Minnesota.

Opening session will be called on May 18, 2019 at 8:30 am.

The purpose of the convention is to:

Elect District Officers for the 2019 – 2020 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 May 1, 2019**. 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 18, 2019 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.

Unit	Location	Goal	Previous	Turn In	Total	Percent	Left
9	Winona	181	0		107	59.12%	74
90	Lewiston	42	0		36	85.71%	6
190	St Charles	81	0		52	64.20%	29
50	Wabasha	142	0		110	77.46%	32
110	Lake City	88	0		71	80.68%	17
179	Plainview	185	0		129	69.73%	56
546	Kellogg	141	0		120	85.11%	21
573	Elgin	24	0		17	70.83%	7
579	Millville	50	0		52	104.00%	-2
588	Mazeppa	54	0		36	66.67%	18
92	Rochester	183	0		125	68.31%	58
119	Byron	95	0		74	77.89%	21
164	Stewartville	188	0		168	89.36%	20
551	Eyota	109	0		93	85.32%	16
Pod One Total		1563	0	0	1190	76.14%	373
295	West Concord	37	0		33	89.19%	4
330	Hayfield	198	0		176	88.89%	22
333	Kasson	151	0		128	84.77%	23
384	Dodge Center	81	0		74	91.36%	7
422	Claremont	22	0		20	90.91%	2
52	Blooming Prairie	118	0		102	86.44%	16
77	Owatonna	138	0		107	77.54%	31
75	New Richland	66	0		48	72.73%	18
228	Waseca	237	0		228	96.20%	9
587	Waldorf	30	0		17	56.67%	13
Pod Two Totals		1078	0	0	933	86.55%	145
40	Lanesboro	104	0		96	92.31%	8
68	Spring Valley	47	0		41	87.23%	6
81	Harmony	53	0		52	98.11%	1
94	Rushford	78	0		51	65.38%	27
197	Chatfield	40	0		31	77.50%	9
299	Mabel	139	0		111	79.86%	28
369	Wykoff	17	0		16	94.12%	1
526	Peterson	38	0		40	105.26%	-2
544	Ostrander	18	0		14	77.78%	4
637	Whalen	25	0		21	84.00%	4
191	Caledonia	79	0		74	93.67%	5
249	Spring Grove	144	0		120	83.33%	24
423	Houston	144	0		136	94.44%	8
498	Hokah	21	0		17	80.95%	4
595	LaCrescent	233	0		175	75.11%	58
Pod Three Totals		1180	0	0	995	84.32%	185
56	Albert Lea	342	0		284	83.04%	58
264	Glenville	111	0		86	77.48%	25
404	Alden	49	0		35	71.43%	14
552	Freeborn	65	0		60	92.31%	5
91	Austin	169	0		126	74.56%	43
105	Lyle	55	0		55	100.00%	0
140	Grand Meadow	79	0		62	78.48%	17
146	Adams	148	0		124	83.78%	24
161	Leroy	68	0		38	55.88%	30
Pod Four Totals		1086	0	0	870	80.11%	216
Total		4907	0	0	3988	81.27%	919

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Membership

Thank you to all membership chairs for your hard work this year. Through April 15th First District ranks in 6th place in Department. Our district has seen the largest membership drop from last year. With that said, I hope our Units will work hard this coming year on trying to get renewals back. With 379 down from last year, the largest portion is in renewals that didn't happen this year. Hopefully next year will be better for membership!

Wanda Prescher-Membership

POPPY - 2019

To all members, including Legionairres, SAL & riders:

I am attaching the department chairman guidelines for Poppy. It is my hope you have contacted your schools and have our younger generation working on Poppy Poster Contests. It is my hope we have more than 2 units participating this year!

If you haven't been to your schools yet, go there now! Have them start working on the project and then get them back to me so I can forward them to the Department Chairman Sharon Barnes.

Department Sharon states, "I have to have the posters in to NW Division by June 1st. So I should probably have all sent to me by May 15th. Let everyone you know--know."

Shaaron Barnes

I would hope you request them into you early enough to have them judged in the unit and sent to me, the district; so we have results by District Convention. You may also need them by the time you fill out the annual report so use your discretion.

I also want to announce these same items will be used for District Convention poppy contest. They then can be used for department competition. I would like to add a poppy corsage contest---small corsage if possible. These could then be kept and used for certain events of the district. **Prizes will be given as stated in the trophy and award listing and what district has budgeted for. Please read the district standing rules for the contest and all of our programs!**

"Veterans Are Our Star's and Heroes" and remember our District Michelle has the Poppy as her symbol this year.

Let's make her and the first District proud in representing what the poppy means and stands for. Any questions please contact me dsfredrick@gmail.com or call 507-448-3438. Do keep in mind I also have the "poppy" pin available for \$7.00. Profits are 2fold---President Michelle's District Project---Girl's State. What a great way to promote both of our programs----Girl's State and Poppy!
District chairman,



Sandy Fredrickson

PLAQUES AND AWARDS

PROGRAM - POPPY - Shaaron Barnes, Chairman

All entries are to be sent to the Department Chairman— Shaaron Barnes
(Address list included with instructions)

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Vanlandingham Poppy Plaque

Award Criteria: To the Unit with the best program on using the Poppy all year.

Award Guidelines: Reports must be typewritten, in narrative form not to exceed 1,000 words. Please include a copy of the annual report form. The report should cover all areas of emphasis And any relevant information involving program activity and describing your use of the poppy throughout the year. DO NOT include pictures or clippings, scrapbooks or folders. Entries must include the name of the Department & Unit, along with the name & address of the Unit Chairman. The winner will be forwarded to Division Chairman for the Unit Poppy Competition.

Award: Plaque, presented at Department Convention

Poppy Poster Contest

Award Criteria: Units will sponsor contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups, including Junior members, may participate under direct supervision of the Unit

* The contest shall have seven classes

Class I: Grades 2 & 3

Class IV: Grades 8 & 9

Class II: Grades 4 & 5

Class V: Grades 10 & 11

Class III: Grades 6 & 7

Class VI: Grade 12

Class VII: Students with special needs as defined as:

- * Those in special education classes
- * A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.
- * A child identified as having s disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities, Identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

* Poppy Poster Requirements:

(continued on next page)

- a. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles— “a”, “and”, “an”, “the” - are not to be counted as words. The words “buddy” and “buy” cannot be used.
- b. The words “American Legion Auxiliary” must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10 word count.
- c. East Poster must include a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy.
- d. The Department shall determine the closing date for the unit contest.
The poster shall be on 11x14” poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted)
- e. The United States Flag may be used as long as there are no infarctions of the Flag code.
- f. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
 - 50% - Poster appeal (lay out, message, originality)
 - 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
 - 10% - - neatness
- g. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint.
Handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils and markers.
- h. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class, in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age and grade of the contestant and the name of the department.
- i. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians’ grant non - exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.
- J. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
- K. The label “IN Memoriam” from the veteran—made poppy may not be used.

MISS POPPY CONTEST

Award Criteria: Little Miss Poppy - Ages 6 - 12

Award Guidelines:

- * Participant must be between 6 and 12 years of age and be a Jr member in good standing of The American Legion Auxiliary.
- * Promotional activity of the Poppy story must occur through the American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and the community.
- * Selection of Little Miss Poppy is at the discretion of the unit.
- * For National Little Miss Poppy consideration, participant must submit a Little Miss Poppy scrapbook (8 1/2” x 11”) containing photographs and clippings illustrating how she promoted the American Legion Auxiliary poppy in her department. Only those scrapbooks that contain a self-addressed envelope with postage will be returned. Although every effort will be made to return the scrapbook, accidents do happen, so all entrants must allow for that risk.
- * Criteria for judging Little Miss Scrapbook entries:
 - a) Costume (there is no specific dress code or particular color for Miss Poppy).
 - b) Promotion of the poppy program: What did you share and do?
 - c) Publicity of poppy activities (newspapers, radio/TV, ect.).
 - d) Narrative report on “What I Have Learned Being Little Miss Poppy.”
 - e) Essay on “Memorial Poppy” not to exceed 100 words.

(continued on the next page)

- f) The memorial poppy must be visible in all promotion and publicity submitted.
 - g) Neatness and creativity.
 - h) Cover page to include member name, unit name, state, age division and year.
 - i) Judging scale should be 1 through 10 for each area of judging for entire entry.
- * The Little Miss Poppy (age 6—12) winner will be invited to appear at the ALA National Convention, immediately following her selection, and if she so chooses, will travel at her own expense.
- a. Winners of the National Little Miss Poppy contest each will receive a citation plaque.
- * Please follow department guidelines for submitting entries.
- a. If the poppy scrapbook is to be returned, members must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Although every effort will be made to return the scrapbook, accidents do happen so all entrants must allow for that risk.
- ** The Department winners in each class will be forwarded to National for competition.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION POPPY CONTEST.

Award Criteria:

Potted Plant or terrarium

Award Guideline

Must use Department President's Jean's theme "Veteran's Are Our Stars and Heroes).

Award Criteria

Stuffed Animal

Must use Department President's Jean's theme "Veteran's Are Our Star's and Heroes") and the poppy.

Both contests are open to all Auxiliary members. All entries must include a card in an envelope containing your name, Unit number, District number and location. Small or large poppies may be used with the white tags removed. Voting for People's Choice will be by donation, with the funds going to the Department President's Projects. Those who choose to donate their entries, will be donated to a veteran.

Award: Cash prizes for each contest will be awarded as follows:

- 1st place - \$25.00
- 2nd place - \$20.00
- 3rd place - \$15.00
- 4th place - \$15.00
- People's Choice - \$10.00

(continued on the next page.)

NATIONL AWARDS**A. POPPY POSTER CONTEST**

- * See Department Awards - same rules apply

B. NATIONAL MISS POPPY CONTEST: LITTLE MISS POPPY (AGES 6-12)

- * See Department Awards - same rules apply

C. UNIT AWARDS; MOST OUTSTANDING UNIT POPPY PROGRAM

- * Award: Citation Plaque
- * Presented to: One unit in each division (5) announced by the National Poppy committee at the pre—convention meeting.
- * Materials and guidelines:
 - a. The entry must be typewritten in narrative format not to exceed 1,00 words.
 - b. The report should cover all areas of emphasis and any relevant information involving program activity and describing your use of the poppy throughout the year.

D. DEPARTMENT AWARD; BEST POPPY PROGRAM

- * Award: Citation
 - * Presented to: One Department in each division (5) announced by the National Poppy Committee at the pre—convention meeting.
 - * Materials and guidelines:
 - a. The entry must be typewritten in narrative format, not to exceed 1,000 words.
 - B. The report should cover all areas of emphasis and any relevant information involving Program activity and describing your use of the poppy throughout the year.
-

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



COMMANDER

Tim Weaver
1303 Kane St
La Crosse, WI 54603
608-304-6532
timweaver595@gmail.co

Greetings and SALutations!

It is the time of year where the weather has warmed up and...wait a minute...its snowing again?!?! Only in Minnesota.

ADJUTANT

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

There is not much that will be mentioned in this newsletter as a majority of what I write about will be discussed at our District Convention on May 4th in Stewartville. Please try to attend. We are paying mileage for 1 driver from each Squadron so if you can attend, please do so. We would love to have a great turnout. The Executive Board will be meeting at 9am with the general session to follow. Registration is \$10 and that includes your lunch. There will be much to discuss beyond just the election of YOUR new team for the 2019-2020 Membership Year.

EAST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Jeremiah Oeltjen
412 3rd Ave SE—Stewartville, MN 55976
507—251—6940
jeremiah@oeltjen.us

CWF - As many of you should know by now, my project is The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. With donations from the Squadrons, Units and Posts within the District, we are currently at a total donated of \$2,297!! I cannot begin to express my gratitude for every dollar that has been donated thus far. These donations do not include the piggy banks that I have had at different rallies and that are at some of your Posts. Please make sure to bring these pigs to District Convention. If you are not attending the SAL District Convention, please bring them to the Legion District Convention on May 18th and hand them to Gary Weaver so he can get them to me and we can get the full total of donations to be announced at our Detachment Convention on June 29th. Remember that every donation, no matter how small means so much for the Child Welfare Foundation.

WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

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

Detachment Convention is coming up on June 28th and 29th at Legionville. If you can attend, please make the attempt to do so. We would love to have a great turnout from the First District.

MEMBERSHIP

As always, please keep all our service personnel in your thoughts and prayers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tim Weaver
District 1 SAL Commander

2019 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, Tim Weaver, First District Commander, do here by call a Convention of the First District Sons of The American Legion to convene at American Legion Post 164 located at 1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville, MN on Saturday May 4th, 2019 with exec board at 9 am, regular meeting at 10 am. As per last year's convention this year we are meeting 2 weeks before the Legion and Auxiliary.

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 Commander
Tim Weaver
1303 Kane St.
La Crosse, WI 54601

All District SAL members are urged to attend.

Tim Weaver
1st District SAL Commander

SAL Delegate certification to the First District Convention in Stewartville, MN on Saturday May 4th, 2019

Squadron _____, MN
Delegates Alternates

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

Signed _____

Adjutant Squadron # _____

SAL OFFICER ENDOREMENTS

Gittens-Leidel Squadron 595

Sons of the American Legion

Gittens-Leidel Squadron 595, Sons of the American Legion, are proud to endorse William Goede for the position of 1st District, Sons of the American Legion Finance Officer.

Bill is a Charter member of our Squadron. Bill has been active in the 1st District, he has served as Judge Advocate and Finance Officer.

Thru his own service he is a member of Plainview American Legion Post 179, where he has served in many capacities. Bill has been active on the District level as well currently serving as District Finance Officer. Bill is also currently the Department Finance Officer and is a Past Department Commander. Bill has also served on the National Level.

Bill has been a capable leader in Plainview Legion activities as well as for other organizations. We are confident that he will continue to do an excellent job as 1st District SAL Finance Officer.

Gary L. Weaver

Adjutant

Sons of the American Legion

Squadron 595

Waseca Squadron #228 proudly endorses Ron Wolff as a candidate for Treasurer of the 1st District Sons of The American Legion. Ron has held all offices in the Squadron and is currently the Treasurer for the Waseca County Avenue of Flags. He is also a Past 1st District Commander and Past Detachment Commander. We know that with all Ron's experience he will do a great job for the District.

Please join us in supporting Ron as a candidate for this position.

For God and Country

Roger Ockwig

Commander Waseca Squadron #228



Sons of the American Legion Leon J. Wetzel - Squadron 9

April 10, 2019

Dave Bilderback
First District Adjutant
44292 2nd Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Adjutant Bilderback,

On April 8, 2019, during the regular meeting of Leon J. Wetzel Squadron 9, the Squadron Membership voted unanimously to endorse Brian Tomashek for the office of East Vice-Commander for Minnesota, District 1, Sons of the American Legion.

On April 9, 2019, during the regular meeting of Leon J. Wetzel Post 9, the Post Membership also voted unanimously to endorse Brian Tomashek for the office of East Vice-Commander for Minnesota, District 1, Sons of the American Legion.

Please accept this letter as our endorsement.

LaVern Hauschildt
Squadron 9 Adjutant

Jeff Brokum
Post 9 Commander

I have been an SAL member for ten years, and as of August 2017 I am "paid up for life" with the Minnesota Detachment. I currently hold the office of 1st Vice-Commander of our Squadron, and have for several terms. Prior to that, I held the office of 2nd Vice-Commander for a few terms.

I am interested in becoming a Vice-Commander at the District level because it would give me the opportunity to work with other Squadrons to build an active member base.

Sincerely,

Brian Tomashek
Squadron 9 1st Vice-Commander

cc: Tim Weaver; SAL District Commander
Wayne Hammon, Jr.; District Adjutant

Winona Area Veteran's Center
302 East Sarnia
Winona, MN 55987



Sons of the American Legion Leon J. Wetzel - Squadron 9

April 16, 2019

Dave Bilderback
First District Adjutant
44092 2nd Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Adjutant Bilderback,

On April 8, 2019, during the regular meeting of Leon J. Wetzel Squadron 9, the Squadron Membership voted unanimously to endorse Greg Lemmer for the office of Commander for Minnesota, District 1, Sons of the American Legion.

On April 9, 2019, during the regular meeting of Leon J. Wetzel Post 9, the Post Membership also voted unanimously to endorse Greg Lemmer for the office of Commander for Minnesota, District 1, Sons of the American Legion.

Please accept this letter as our endorsement.



Lavern Hausch Id.
Squadron 9 Adjutant




Jeffrey A. Brokaw
Post 9 Commander

Out of regret for not serving in the Military myself, I joined the SAL as my way of honoring and giving back to those that have served. I have been a member of Squadron 9 for eleven years, and currently hold the offices of Squadron Commander and District Chaplain. I have held the office of Squadron Command for a number of years, and previously held the office of Vice-Commander.

We have built a strong Squadron in Winona that actively supports our community and Legion Family. I am proud to be a member of our Squadron, and look forward to an opportunity to work with the other Squadrons in our District to help strengthen and support their growth.

Sincerely,



Greg Lemmer
Squadron 9 Commander

cc: Tim Weaver; SAL District Commander
Wayne Hammon, Jr.; District Adjutant

Winona Area Veteran's Center
302 East Sarnia
Winona, MN 55987



Sons of the American Legion Leon J. Wetzel - Squadron 9

April 10, 2019

Dave Bilderback
First District Adjutant
44092 2nd Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901

Adjutant Bilderback,

On April 8, 2019, during the regular meeting of Leon J. Wetzel Squadron 9, the Squadron Membership voted unanimously to endorse Josh Erickson for the office of Finance Officer for Minnesota, District 1, Sons of the American Legion.

On April 9, 2019, during the regular meeting of Leon J. Wetzel Post 9, the Post Membership also voted unanimously to endorse Josh Erickson for the office of Finance Officer for Minnesota, District 1, Sons of the American Legion.

Please accept this letter as our endorsement.

LeVera Hauschild
Squadron 9 Adjutant

Jeff Bohan
Post 9 Commander

I joined the Winona SAL Squadron ten years ago and was elected as the Finance Officer shortly after joining. I have continuously been re-elected to the Office ever since.

I have previously sat on the Finance Committee of the Board of Directors for a local non-profit organization, and I formed a non-profit association under Minnesota tax law to manage donations for the Winona County Sheriff's SOAR Team.

I have developed a strong working-knowledge of accounting practices and tax rules, and I am confident I would be a good fit for the SAL District Finance Officer.

Sincerely,

Josh Erickson
Squadron 9 Finance Officer

cc: Tim Weaver; SAL District Commander
Wayne Hammon, Jr.; District Adjutant

Winona Area Veteran's Center
302 East Sarnia
Winona, MN 55987

SAL MEMBERSHIP FOR 4/9/2019

SQUAD	LOCATION	GOAL	PREVIOUS	TURN IN	TOTAL	PERCENT	LEFT	DATE
9	WINONA	79	79	0	79	100.00%	0	2/13/2019
40	LANESBORO	60	58	1	59	98.33%	1	3/19/2019
50	WABASHA	9	6	0	6	66.67%	3	2/13/2019
90	LEWISTON	45	46	0	46	102.22%	-1	2/13/2019
92	ROCHESTER	131	100	15	115	87.79%	16	3/19/2019
94	RUSHFORD	46	33	1	34	73.91%	12	4/9/2019
119	BYRON	37	34	3	37	100.00%	0	3/19/2019
164	STEWARTVILLE	109	59	0	59	54.13%	50	2/13/2019
166	PRESTON	42	39	0	39	92.86%	3	2/13/2019
179	PLAINVIEW	16	10	3	13	81.25%	3	3/19/2019
190	ST CHARLES	10	5	4	9	90.00%	1	3/19/2019
191	CALEDONIA	1	0	0	0	0.00%	1	2/13/2018
249	SPRING GROVE	1	2	0	2	200.00%	-1	2/13/2019
299	MABEL	26	0	0	0	0.00%	26	2/13/2019
423	HOUSTON	1	0	0	0	0.00%	1	2/13/2019
546	KELLOGG	22	19	0	19	86.36%	3	2/13/2019
551	EYOTA	42	26	4	30	71.43%	12	2/13/2019
573	ELGIN	1	1	0	1	100.00%	0	2/13/2019
579	MILLVILLE	29	25	0	25	86.21%	4	2/13/2019
595	LA CRESCENT	69	51	17	68	98.55%	1	3/19/2019
TOTAL FOR EAST SIDE		776	0	0	641	82.60%	135	4/9/2019
52	BLOOMING PRAIRIE	40	39	0	39	97.50%	1	2/13/2019
56	ALBERT LEA	139	104	8	112	80.58%	27	3/19/2019
75	NEW RICHLAND	3	0	0	0	0.00%	3	2/13/2019
77	OWATONNA	140	115	10	125	89.29%	15	4/19/2019
91	AUSTIN	70	63	4	67	95.71%	3	4/9/2019
105	LYLE	33	1	0	1	3.03%	32	2/13/2019
140	GRAND MEADOW	11	0	0	0	0.00%	11	2/13/2019
146	ADAMS	134	77	15	92	68.66%	42	4/9/2019
161	LEROY	49	38	0	38	77.55%	11	2/13/2019
228	WASECA	130	113	4	117	90.00%	13	3/19/2019
264	GLENVILLE	39	43	2	45	115.38%	-6	4/9/2019
266	HARTLAND	13	11	0	11	84.62%	2	2/13/2019
281	JANESVILLE	8	0	7	7	87.50%	1	3/19/2019
317	EMMONS	14	1	0	1	7.14%	13	2/13/2019
330	HAYFIELD	34	34	4	38	111.76%	-4	3/19/2019
333	KASSON	33	39	3	42	127.27%	-9	3/19/2019
384	DODGE CENTER	11	10	3	13	118.18%	-2	4/9/2019
404	ALDEN	61	49	8	57	93.44%	4	4/9/2019
552	FREEBORN	30	26	2	28	93.33%	2	2/13/2019
TOTAL FOR WEST SIDE		992	0	70	833	83.97%	159	4/9/2019
1111	DAKOTA	83	61	7	68	81.93%	15	3/19/2019
TOTAL FOR DISTRICT		1849	0	0	1595	86.26%	254	4/9/2019

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



DIRECTOR

Roe Naylor
63109 240th St
Brownsdale, MN 55918
507-438-5804

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Karla Miller
5530 W 9th St—Winona, MN 55987
507—459—5962
928sunshine@gmail.com

SECRETARY

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

SGT AT ARMS

James Rinehart
28006US Highway 218—Austin, MN 55912
612—991—4669
kgwenel@msn.com

HISTORIAN

Kassy Betterman
1625 Crestview Lane—Owatonna, MN 55060
507—533—9434

CHAPLAIN

Ron Knudson
431 Shellrock Ln—Glenville, MN—56036
browninggold3112@yahoo.com

ROAD CAPTAIN

Mark Maloney
2315 Park Lane SE - Rochester, MN - 55904
507—513—1582
markmaloney0003@gmail.com

2019 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 Stewartville American Legion post, 1100 2nd Ave NW, Stewartville, MN at 1:00 PM on Saturday May 18, 2019 in conjunction with the First District American Legion Family Convention.

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 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

All You can Eat Pancake Breakfast

Every Sunday 9am -12pm \$8.00 at the Door

Breakfast includes Eggs, Sausage, your choice of Orange Juice or Milk & Bottomless Pancakes

Proceeds going to help Veterans in need

American Legion Post 91
809 12th St SW Austin, Mn



STEAK FRY



Choose steak, shrimp or both!

Served with a baked potato, dinner salad and Texas garlic toast.

12 oz. ribeye \$15

6 shrimp \$10

8 oz. ribeye & 3 shrimp \$15

Proceeds go toward required kitchen upgrades and other building repairs.

2nd Friday Monthly, 5-7 p.m.

Waseca American Legion

700 South State St ~ 507-833-9935



American Legion SPAM Post 570 cordially invites you to the

2019 Armed Forces Day Dinner

5:30 pm on Saturday, May 18 2019

At the American Legion Post 91

Dinner: Chicken Kiev with Rice or Beef Stroganoff over noodles, with salad, broccoli, roll, coffee/water, and dessert.

Cost: \$16 per person or 2 for \$30

Limited seating, reservations required

- call Kim at 507-437-1151

Proceeds to benefit SPAM Post 570 programs—Thank You!

Public
Invited!

Louis McCahill

American Legion - Post 110
Lake City MN.

Public
Invited!



224 S. Washington Street, Lake City
Serving 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Feb. - Nov. 2019

\$16.00 per person (Tax & Beverage included)
Carryouts available for \$1 extra. Call 345-2224
Fall Raffle Nov. 15TH, 2019

\$20.00
for
split meals

Door Prize Drawing
for Free Steak Dinner at future Steak Fry

LEGION CLUB ROOMS

USE OUR FACILITIES TO CELEBRATE YOUR SPECIAL EVENTS

Class Reunions, Anniversaries, Weddings, Banquets

Call Dan Smith at 651-345-3876 for Information/Booking

\$25.00 charge to non-profit organizations

Meetings on 3rd Monday of each month

STAND ★ DOWN FOR VETERANS - 2019 -

**THURSDAY, JUNE 27TH
2:00 - 7:00 PM**

(WELCOME CEREMONY BEGINS AT 2:00 PM)
ALL VETERANS WELCOME! CALL MACV FOR MORE INFO (507)345-8258

ROCHESTER FEST
244 SOLDIERS FIELD DR SW
ROCHESTER, MN 55902

Services



Resources



Camaraderie

FREE SERVICES AVAILABLE INCLUDE:

- LOCAL RESOURCES
- VA BENEFITS
- CLOTHING
- HOUSING
- PUBLIC BENEFITS
- FREE HAIRCUT COUPONS
- EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE
- LEGAL ASSISTANCE

THIS IS A KID FRIENDLY EVENT!
WE INVITE AND ENCOURAGE VETERANS TO BRING YOUR FAMILY!



Ending Veteran Homelessness in Minnesota