



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

Legion Contacts

Commander

Mary Hanson
1701 4th Ave SW
Austin, MN 55912
507-440-3606
1stdistcommander@gmail.com

Adjutant

Wayne A Hammon
115 East Cabot St
LeRoy, MN 55951
507-696-2707
1stadjutant@gmail.com

Membership

Dale Wellik
17941 County Highway 34
Dodge Center, MN 55927
507/421/5674
treeson34@gmail.com

Chaplain

Glenn Mueller
548 E 10th St
St Charles, MN 55932
507—316—3977
glm01311962@gmail.com

VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

Area One - Robert Schmidt

1104 West Center St
Lake City, MN 55041
651—448—3687
msgbob79@gmail.com

Area Two - Mike Parry

601 13th Ave SE
Waseca, MN 56093
507—382—8447
mparry57@gmail.com

Area Three - Nicolas Prestby

PO Box 227
Canton, MN 55922
507-743-8400 or 770-605-5312
nickprestby@outlook.com

Area Four - Cole Wilcox

807 North Everett St
LeRoy, MN 55951
507—481—7822
colewilcox86@gmail.com

MAY 2023

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

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

May 6, 2023—First District SAL Convention 10:00 AM at Kasson Post 333.

May 6, 2023—First District Legion Rider Convention at 1:00 PM in Kasson Post 333

May 20, 2023—The First District Legion and Auxiliary Convention at 10:00 AM in Kasson Post 333.

May 29, 2023—Memorial Day please find and attend a program in your area.

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.



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

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

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

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

FALL RALLY

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

MID-WINTER

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

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

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

FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION

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

212 West Main St, Kasson. MN

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

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

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

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

_____ Saturday lunch \$10.00

Total Amount _____

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

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

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

NAME _____ PHONE _____/_____/_____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

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

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

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

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

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

_____ cut off _____

Hotel information for the First District Convention in Kasson

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

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

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

2023 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, Mary Hanson, do hereby call a convention of the First District to convene at Kasson, Minnesota, Saturday May 23, 2023.

The business sessions of the convention will be held at Kasson American Legion Post 333 located at 212 West Main St., Kasson, MN, commencing at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 20, 2023, 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

Mary Hanson

Delegate Certification to the First District Convention in Kasson, Minnesota, May 20, 2023, 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 # _____

MEMBERSHIP RALLIES AND EVENTS

2022-2023

- May 13, 2023** Dept Comanders Testimonial
Post 45, New Prague, MN
Time, menu and program TBA
- May 6, 2023** First District SAL Convention – Kasson American Legion
Post 333 (212 West Main Street, Kasson , MN) time TBA
- May 6, 2023** First District ALR Convention – Kasson American Legion
Post 333 (212 West Main Street, Kasson, MN) time TBA
- May 20, 2023** First District Legion & Aux Convention – Kasson American
Post 333 (212 West Main Street, Kasson, MN). Time TBA
- July 12—15, 2023** Department Convention - Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel,
Redwood Falls, MN . More info on the MN legion website at mnlegion.org
(Department events in red and District events in Black)

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! NOTICE !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

THE AMERICAN LEGION WILL BE CHECKING MEMBERSHIP CARDS AT THE FIRST DISTRICT CONVENTION. YOU WILL NEED TO SHOW A CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR 2023 AT THE REGISTRATION DESK TO ATTEND THE LEGION SESSION.





FROM YOUR COMMANDERS PEN

Greetings 1st District Family,

I would like to thank everyone that attended the joint testimonial for Auxiliary President Tonia Bettermann and myself. It was hosted by Post 77 in Owatonna on April 29th. Jim Kellogg and Wanda Prescher were the MC's. A little bit of roasting went on, but it wasn't as bad as we expected. No animals were involved. It was touching when Chuck Krueger, the Legion Judge Advocate in attendance and Lynette Wolff, the Auxiliary Parliamentarian, came down the elevator and presented Tonia and I with flowers. It was a wonderful time to celebrate with family and friends.

I have sent out emails to the post commanders regarding possible legislative changes to e-pull tabs. I hope you passed this along to other post members and used the attached link to contact your legislators. I think we will lose some posts if that line of income is removed. Please, do everything you can to help with this issue. This has been a tough legislative year. Please do your part.

Our 1st District convention will be held at the Kasson post on May 20th. It would be nice to see more post participation. Bring your membership card.

Post elections are happening around the district. Please remember to fill out the Department Post Officer Reporting Form. This needs to be filled out each year even if the members in the position do not change. Fill out completely. Do not put same as last year. One copy needs to be sent to our District Adjutant Wayne Hammon. We use these for contact information during the year. You can find the form on [mnlegion.org/membership/Forms & Resources](http://mnlegion.org/membership/Forms%20&%20Resources). Always keep a copy.

The CPR report will be coming due shortly. This can be done on my legion or a paper copy mailed to department. Always keep a copy.

Hopefully summer is on the way soon.

Mary Hanson
1st District Commander



FROM YOUR CHALAINS DESK

Good evening, everyone, wow May Day already.

I'm asking for everyone who is running for a District, Post, Department or National Office, to do their best in the position that you are about to assume.

Important dates for us to remember are Mother's Day, May 14, Children of Fallen Patriot's Day, May 13. Please remember Armed Forces Week starting on May 13th thru the 20th. The 20th being Armed Forces Day.

Please remember Memorial Day for all our fallen men and women who have their lives for us. Let us not forget the POW/MIA's and Gold Star Families.

Please keep everyone in your prayers who are struggling with everyday situations.

I hope to see everyone at the district convention in Kason on May 20th.

First District Chaplain
Glenn Mueller



FROM AREA FOUR

Let continue to get thar membership in.

Every veteran counts young and old we all support each other.

ENDORSEMENTS FOR OFFICERS

- Commander -----Mark Maloney**
- Finance Officer -----Bill Goede**
- Area One Vice Commander ---Robert Schmidt**
- Area Four Vice Commander---Cole Wilcox**
- Chaplain -----Ralph Schneekloth**

Greetings from Area Two,

As this will be my last article as your Area Two Vice Commander, let me say 'Thank you' to all of you that I've talked with. Whether it a question on membership or how to run a Post meeting, I've enjoy the interaction. Membership is so critical to the survival of the World's largest Veterans Organization. All it takes is a simply, "Are you a member of the American Legion. If not, I'd like you to join our Post because....." All you have to do is sell your own post and all the things it does for your members and the community. Keep up the good work you all do for the American Legion. Volunteerism is crucial to each of your Posts. Thank you for all you do.

One Final note. Did you call your legislator and tell them not to change e-tabs? It's still not too late. Major decisions are being made in the next couple of weeks and all you need to do is call or e-mail. Just tell them, "Leave e-tabs alone." The more of us that call and e-mail, the bigger the impact. I'm afraid of what will happen to many Posts throughout the state if e-tabs are changed the way its proposed. It just gives Tribal Gaming all the review and hinders our income. Please take time to call or e-mail you representatives. If you need any more information call or e-mail me and I will give you an update or answer your questions.

Until we meet again...BE THE ONE!

Mike Parry
Area Two Vice Commander
507-382-8447
Mparry57@gmail.com

NATIONAL CONVENTION REQUESTS

- Bill Goede**
- Chuck Krueger**
- Mary Hanson**
- Jim Kellogg**
- Myron Ehrich**

First District American Legion Family,

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

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

God Bless America, the Legion Family and all our Veterans.

Mike Parry
Public Relations Committee
First District



**Memorial
Day**
*Never Forget
Ever Honor*

From Area One

Greetings from Area 1.

The individual Post participation at District meetings and functions continues to dwindle.

The downside of this is that Post leadership and membership are losing out on great information exchange, training, and friendship between fellow veterans.

I hope that you will consider attending the District Convention on May 20th.

The PACT Act contains new laws that can assist veterans who served in overseas areas from Vietnam to the Middle East. Contact your VSO to review it with them.

REMEMBER KINDNESS AND UNDERSTANDING AND "BE THE ONE"

. Hope to see you at the District Convention.

Robert Schmidt

Area One Vice Commander

The American Legion, Dept of MN, First District 2023 Membership Report for April 26, 2023

Dist	Post	Location	New 2023	PUFL 2023	Online 2023	Trad 2023	Paid 2023	HQ Trans 2023	Total Membr 2023	Goal 2023	% of Goal	HQ Trans 2023	Last yr at this date
1	9	Winona	14	36	0	400	450	3	453	477	94.97%	0	0
1	90	Lewiston	3	10	0	63	76	2	78	80	97.50%	0	0
1	190	St Charles	1	16	0	88	105	0	105	140	75.00%	0	0
1		Winona County	18	62	0	551	631	5	636	697	91.25%	0	0
1	50	Wabasha	6	46	0	153	205	0	205	207	99.03%	0	0
1	110	Lake City	14	16	0	145	175	1	176	201	87.56%	0	0
1	179	Plainview	5	26	0	113	144	0	144	147	97.96%	0	0
1	546	Kellogg	0	8	0	48	56	0	56	60	93.33%	0	0
1	573	Elgin	0	3	0	22	25	0	25	27	92.59%	0	0
1	579	Millville	0	20	0	83	103	0	103	109	94.50%	0	0
1	588	Mazeppa	5	8	0	50	63	0	63	64	98.44%	0	0
1		Wabsha County	30	127	0	614	771	1	772	815	94.72%	0	0
1	92	Rochester	14	93	0	558	665	11	676	784	86.22%	0	0
1	119	Byron	2	18	0	88	108	0	108	127	85.04%	0	0
1	164	Stewartville	18	25	0	230	273	0	273	285	95.79%	0	0
1	446	Rochester	0	2	0	9	11	0	11	12	91.67%	0	0
1	551	Eyota	13	23	0	150	186	0	186	185	100.54%	0	0
1		Olmsted County	47	161	0	1035	1243	11	1254	1393	90.02%	0	0
1		Area One	95	350	0	2200	2645	17	2662	2905	91.64%	0	0
1	295	West Concord	0	7	0	31	38	0	38	43	88.37%	0	0
1	330	Hayfield	6	18	0	143	167	1	168	162	103.70%	0	0
1	333	Kasson	14	31	0	197	242	2	244	242	100.83%	0	0
1	384	Dodge Center	1	9	0	57	67	0	67	76	88.16%	0	0
1	422	Claremont	1	3	0	25	29	0	29	30	96.67%	0	0
1		Dodge County	22	68	0	453	543	3	546	553	98.73%	0	0
1	52	Blooming Prairie	1	16	0	66	83	0	83	85	97.65%	0	0
1	77	Owatonna	6	57	0	307	370	1	371	407	91.15%	0	0
1	296	Ellendale	2	3	0	28	33	0	33	34	97.06%	0	0
1		Steel County	9	76	0	401	486	1	487	526	92.59%	0	0
1	75	New Richland	0	8	0	33	41	0	41	44	93.18%	0	0
1	228	Waseca	5	23	0	237	265	3	268	275	97.45%	0	0
1	281	Janesville	4	5	0	75	84	0	84	86	97.67%	0	0
1	587	Waldorf	0	0	0	19	19	0	19	22	86.36%	0	0
1		Waseca County	9	36	0	364	409	3	412	427	96.49%	0	0
		Area Two	40	180	0	1218	1438	7	1445	1506	95.95%	0	0

1	40	Lanesboro	5	14	0	85	104	0	104	107	97.20%	0	0
1	68	Spring Valley	0	8	0	54	62	0	62	67	92.54%	0	0
1	81	Harmony	0	1	0	21	22	0	22	27	81.48%	0	0
1	94	Rushford	2	9	0	73	84	0	84	94	89.36%	0	0
1	166	Preston	3	15	0	33	51	0	51	51	100.00%	0	0
1	197	Chatfield	1	1	0	35	37	0	37	38	97.37%	0	0
1	299	Mabel	5	30	0	106	141	1	142	147	96.60%	0	0
1	369	Wykoff	1	0	0	15	16	0	16	17	94.12%	0	0
1	400	Canton	2	0	0	21	23	0	23	22	104.55%	0	0
1	492	Fountain	0	0	0	10	10	0	10	12	83.33%	0	0
1	526	Peterson	0	4	0	29	33	0	33	39	84.62%	0	0
1	544	Ostrander	0	2	0	15	17	0	17	22	77.27%	0	0
1	637	Whalan	0	0	0	10	10	0	10	8	125.00%	0	0
1		Fillmore County	19	84	0	507	610	1	611	651	93.86%	0	0
1	191	Caledonia	3	15	0	108	126	0	126	132	95.45%	0	0
1	249	Spring Grove	3	12	0	115	130	0	130	138	94.20%	0	0
1	423	Houston	2	7	0	82	91	1	92	100	92.00%	0	0
1	498	Hokah	1	1	0	19	21	0	21	22	95.45%	0	0
1	595	LaCrescent	3	45	0	187	235	3	238	247	96.36%	0	0
1		Houston County	12	80	0	511	603	4	607	639	94.99%	0	0
1		Area Three	31	164	0	1018	1213	5	1218	1290	94.42%	0	0
1	56	Albert Lea	10	38	0	395	443	1	444	487	91.17%	0	0
1	264	Glenville	0	8	0	50	58	0	58	67	86.57%	0	0
1	266	Hartland	0	1	0	12	13	0	13	14	92.86%	0	0
1	317	Emmons	1	3	0	41	45	0	45	52	86.54%	0	0
1	404	Alden	1	4	0	74	79	0	79	77	102.60%	0	0
1	552	Freeborn	3	5	0	23	31	0	31	31	100.00%	0	0
1		Freeborn County	15	59	0	595	669	1	670	728	92.03%	0	0
1	91	Austin	11	49	0	331	391	0	391	456	85.75%	0	0
1	105	Lyle	3	8	0	71	82	0	82	85	96.47%	0	0
1	140	Grand Meadow	2	3	0	30	35	0	35	37	94.59%	0	0
1	146	Adams	7	20	0	125	152	0	152	175	86.86%	0	0
1	161	LeRoy	2	4	0	43	49	0	49	47	104.26%	0	0
1	570	Austin Spam	2	0	0	8	10	0	10	12	83.33%	0	0
1		Mower County	27	84	0	608	719	0	719	812	88.55%	0	0
1		Area Four	42	143	0	1203	1388	1	1389	1540	90.19%	0	0
1	1111	Dakota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	10	0

DISTRICT VICE COMMANDER STANDINGS

		Vice Commanders											
		Area One	95	350	0	2200	2645	17	2662	2905	91.64%	0	0
		Area Two	40	180	0	1218	1438	7	1445	1506	95.95%	0	0
		Area Three	31	164	0	1018	1213	5	1218	1290	94.42%	0	0
		Area Four	42	143	0	1203	1388	1	1389	1540	90.19%	0	0

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA 2021 DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 4/26/2023

Dist	Rank												
1	3rd	Mary Hanson	208	837	0	5639	6684	30	6714	7241	92.72%		
2	2nd	Pam Krill	102	609	0	4504	5215	25	5240	5651	92.73%		
3	6th	Gary Richardson	290	1574	0	7330	9,194	99	9,293	10,185	91.24%		
4	9th	Dave Dahl	50	274	0	1314	1638	24	1662	1,840	90.33%		
5	10th	Lynne Nottage	14	300	0	1127	1441	9	1450	1704	85.09%		
6	1st	Karen O'Bar	264	1097	0	7698	9059	120	9,179	9,870	93.00%		
7	7th	Karen Welander	98	670	0	4111	4879	23	4902	5,376	91.18%		
8	4th	Larry Pocrnich	135	321	0	2552	3008	31	3039	3285	92.51%		
9	5th	Terry Buaas	93	541	0	4374	5008	47	5055	5534	91.34%		
10	8th	William Gordon	221	954	0	5984	7159	100	7259	8024	90.47%		
99			16	217	0	1526	1759	0	1759	3121	56.36%		
Totals			1491	7394	0	46,159	55,044	508	55,552	61,831	89.84%		

FROM YOUR DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

I will be taking over the position of Membership Director to finish Dale Wellik's term.

The goal for May 17th is 100% membership. We currently have 9 posts that are 100% or more. Out of 57 posts in the district, this is not a good number. Last year our goal was 7534 and this year it is 7241. A difference of 293 members district wide. In total membership between this year and last, we are down 307 as of this date. Please review the membership numbers of your post. Get your post members involved calling the members that have not renewed. If you want the 1982 and 1982AD list for your area, let me know. Each post needs to do their share to turn this ship around.

Thank you,

Mary Hanson



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT'S DESK

Auxiliary Contacts

President

Tonia Betterman
1625 Crestview Lane
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-456-2315
bettm88@outlook.com

Secretary

Sandy Fredrickson
771 2nd St SW
Glenville, MN 56036
(507) 383-3776
dsfredrick@gmail.com

Membership / First Vice

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

Treasurer

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



From the President's Desk

Greetings,

This has been a long two years but the end is near for me being president of the 1st District. It has been fun to meet new people and learn about the organization. I had a testimonial on April 29th and it was a great evening. Everyone was so kind and so many wonderful and nice things. I shared the testimonial with the commander Mary Hanson who has done a wonderful job as well. Together we have had a great year and accomplished many different things.

In May we will be having a convention for the district on May 20th at the Kasson American Legion. Everyone is welcome to come to this and see what has happened throughout the year. It will be an enjoyable event and I am looking forward to the opportunity to be part of the convention.

This last month I went to the department of Minnesota Auxiliary President Mary Kuperus's testimonial. This was a very special event and was a great opportunity to visit with friends. I also went to the Junior Auxiliary Department Convention in New Praque. This was a great day because we have a 1st District member that will now be the Junior Auxiliary Honorary Department President, Taylor McElroy. She will do a fantastic job and I am so proud of her. The same day was the Appreciation Rally for the Department. It was a great rally and great people to visit with.

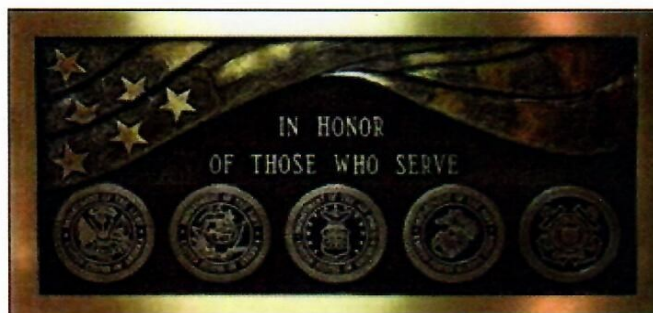
My project this year is a large plaque on the New Preston Veterans Home. I am having a raffle to earn more money for this plaque. Please contact me if you are interested in getting one. They are \$5.00 each.

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

Thank you,

Tonia Bettermann
1st District Auxiliary President

1st District American Legion Auxiliary President's Project



Proposed Plaque for New Veterans Home in Preston Minnesota



Raffle Ticket Prizes:

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

\$5.00 Per Ticket

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

Contact: Tonia Bettermann or Chuck Stone

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 Kasson, Minnesota on Saturday, May 20, 2023. Auxiliary session will be held at the American Legion Post 333 located at, 212 West Main Street, Kasson, Minnesota.

Opening session will be called on May 20, 2023 at 8:30 am.

The purpose of the convention is to:

Elect District Officers for the 2023 – 2024 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, 2023**. 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.

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.

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.

Trophy and Awards (Certificates) Listing

RULES GOVERNING TROPHIES AND AWARDS:

The trophy and award listing will be electronically sent in the March district newsletter.

It is the responsibility of every Unit to return all trophies to the District Convention.

Any Unit not returning or losing a trophy will be responsible for replacing said trophy.

When a trophy is full, the current District President shall ask the donor if they wish to replace it. If donor is deceased or does not care to replace it, the Unit should be asked if they would like to replace it. If not, the trophy will be retired and returned to the Unit or family of the deceased.

To be eligible for trophies and awards, annual reports and all other entries for competition must be received in the department offices by April 15 and sent to the District Chairman, except where specifically stated.

A Certificate of Recognition may be awarded annually to a Unit in each of the Auxiliary programs. This can be awarded for a particularly good project or for the overall program but not otherwise eligible for a trophy.

There shall be NO CHANGES in the wording or requirements for any changes WITHOUT the express permissions of the person who donated the trophy or if deceased, her Unit or family. If neither one wish to do so the trophy is retired and returned to the donor, her family or the Unit of person who donated it.

Unless otherwise stated, all trophies and awards will be awarded based on the annual reports from April 1 to March 31 of each auxiliary year.

AMERICANISM:

The Betty Gartner Memorial Award is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit reporting the best all-around Americanism program each year.

The Miner/Isenberg First District Americanism Award is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit submitting the most all-around Americanism program. This must be a narrative report of 250 words or less on one project only. This must be attached to the annual report. Pictures or clippings may be attached.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

The *District Child Welfare Gavel Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit having a membership of from 15 to 75 members judged to have the most outstanding Children and Youth report.

The *Myrna Gunderson Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit having a membership of from 76 to 200 members, judged to have the most outstanding Children and Youth report.

The *Cindy Nelson Certificate* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit of the First District judged to have the most outstanding, well-rounded Children and Youth report.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

The *Evelyn Lyke Community Service Trophy* will be awarded to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Community Service project.

The *Berenice Smith Community Service Award* is to be awarded annually at the District Convention based on the size of the unit, to the Unit judged to have the most outstanding piece of work in Community Service. **A narrative report** of 500 words or less on this one project is to be attached to the Unit annual report. Pictures and clippings may be included.

EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP:

The *Mildred Holtz Gavel Bell Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Education and Scholarship report.

HISTORY:

The *Irene Martin History Trophy* will be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit that is judged to have the best all-around typed History report.

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES:

The *Bev Jardine Trophy* is to be awarded at each annual First District Convention to the Unit which best encourages and supports their junior group. A narrative report describing how the Unit encourages and supports their junior group is to be attached to the Unit annual report. Pictures and clippings may be included.

LEADERSHIP:

The *Cheryl Nymann* leadership award will be awarded to the Unit who has the best all-around Leadership Annual Report.

LEGISLATION:

The *Bette Berg and Louella Gusau (B & L)* Trophy will be awarded annually at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Legislative program.

MEMBERSHIP:

The *Marie Goede Membership Trophy* is awarded at the District Convention to the Unit attaining the greatest increase in number of members by the previous year; based on the Department Membership Bulletin prior to the district convention.

The *Lynette Hillman Wolff Membership Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit attaining the greatest percentage of increase in Junior Membership of the previous year, as of Wednesday the week of District Convention.

The *Carol Kruger Membership Trophy* is to be awarded to the first Unit to reach Goal.

MEMORIAL:

The *Audrey Erwin Memorial Trophy* is to be awarded at District Convention to the Unit judged to have the single, most outstanding memorial project for the year. Pictures and clippings may be included, but are not required.

MUSIC:

The *Lois Deco Music Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit who submits the best **narrative report** (not more than 300 words) stating how they used and promoted music within the Unit and community. Report is to be sent to the current First District Music Chairman.

NATIONAL SECURITY:

The *National Security Trophy* will be awarded to the Unit who submits the best all-around **narrative report** not to exceed 500 words. Pictures and clippings may be included.

PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY:

The *Pat Johannsen Trophy* is to be awarded at the District *Lillian Koch Trophy* Convention to the Unit who submits the best all-around **narrative report** written by the Chairman of the Past Presidents Parley in 300 words or less. Report to be sent to the current First District Past Presidents Parley Chairman.

POPPY:

The is to be awarded annually at the District Convention to the Unit with the greatest percentage of increase over their previous year of poppy proceeds. **To be eligible for this trophy, a unit MUST include the dollar amount of poppies from each of the last two years on the Unit annual report.**

The *Marge Schreiber Traveling District Poppy Queen Trophy* is to be presented at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have submitted the most outstanding **narrative entry** for First District Poppy Queen. Entry to be sent to the current First District Poppy Chairman by April 15th.

District awards for Poppy posters shall be \$10.00 for first prize, \$5.00 for second prize, and \$3.00 for third prize in each class. The classes for the Poppy Poster contest are as follows:

Class 1 – Grades 2 and 3	Class II – Grades 4 and 5
Class III – Grades 6 and 7	Class IV – Grades 8 and 9
Class V – Grades 10 and 11	Class VI – Grade 12
Class VII – Students with special needs*	

*Special needs are defined as those students in special education classes or on a waiting list to enter such a class; a student with an identified disability but not in a special education class for reasons other than wait listing.

The *Carol Kruger Traveling Poppy Queen Crown* to be used annually to crown the District Poppy Queen at the District Convention. Crown must be returned before the District Convention each year.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

The *Anna Schmitz Public Relations Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Public Relations report.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION:

The *District Rehabilitation Gavel Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit having membership of 15 to 75 members, judged to have the most outstanding Rehabilitation report. (LOST)

The *Gladys Johnson Gavel Bell Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit having a membership of from 75-200 members, judged to have the most outstanding Rehabilitation report.

Children & Youth

The American Legion was founded on four pillars. The fourth is Children and Youth. As an auxiliary, we support and assist in caring for children. Many active military and veterans families may need our help and there are many things all year that can (and we do) all year.

Our National Children & Youth Chairman has asked that we focus on the Child Welfare Foundation (<http://www.cwf-inc.org>). This foundation was created in 1954 with the purpose of improving the quality of life for children in the USA.

Consider working with local law enforcement as they are a good resource. We need our children to be comfortable approaching a police office when in need.

Safety kits are available at <https://www.kidstarsafety.com>. These are identification kits that parents keep updated and are very helpful in a situation of a missing child. They can be personalized by your unit, post or squadron.

Visit the American Legion Emblem sales site: <https://emblem.legion.org>. There is literature and teaching materials there.

The Eagles Healing Nest (<https://www.eagleshealingnest.org>) continues to assist families. While family members are seeking treatment, the kids are taken care of as well. Let the kids be kids! Please consider a donation to this facility.

Nancy Lewison

1st District Children & Youth

American Legion Auxiliary Award Form
Application for MN District or Department Award

Are you applying for a Select One: award

Thank you for completing this form to enter your report for an award. Make sure this form is completed in full and that your report is attached. When submitting for a **District Award**, mail or email your award form, report, and all attachments to your District President & Chairman. When submitting for a **Department Award**, mail or email your award form, report, and all attachments to the Department Office and the Department Chairman.

Unit: District: Other No of members in your Unit:
 Unit Name:

Personal Information:

First Name: Last Name:

Your Membership ID:

Your email address:

Preferred telephone number: - -

Are you submitting for: OtherAward?

Title of the award?

Program you are submitting the award report for? Other

Submit this form for each entry you are submitting. Attach your report, all pictures (**jpg format**), and all other attachments pertinent to your report. When submitting for both District and Department, you must submit to both separately.

Department Chairman: When submitting for a National Award refer to the "National Awards Form" on the alaforveterans.org website.

This form is for MN District or Department Awards ONLY.

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

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

Every office of the First District is open.

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Mighty Minnesota Membership”

Paul Bunyan and Babe have been working hard all year long, they did not stop we cannot stop working membership.

Paul used his speed, now its time for us to get moving and finish the job.

Paul used his skill to look all around for new members to join and we can make phone calls to get renewed members to pay their dues. Make sure we are we telling them the benefits to renew?

Paul his has strength, so do we in working as a Legion family.

Legion, SAL and Riders, the Auxiliary needs your help to finish the year out strong with high numbers.

We have 3 1/2 months to go PLEASE keep signing up new members and calling members that have not paid. Call your unit membership person to help you if you need them, work together as a team.

Minnesota is at 24,957 members as of this week Numbers as of 4-18-2023.

10th place 5 district	9th place 4 district	8th place 10 district	7th place 7 district
6th place 1 district	5th place 2 district	4th place 8 district	3rd place 6 district
2nd place 9 district	1st place 3 district		

For the year we need 4,000 members to go, goal 28,957.

On June 12th Goal of 95% Goal for 100% Membership July 4th 2023.

Unfortunate the Northeastern Division is currently in last place at the National Level, Minnesota is at 85.97% that makes use in 5th place out of 7 states.

Colorado is at 1st place with a 91.87%.

I believe we can, still make our goal with everyone's help.

Enclosed is a list by district of the units that have made 100% and 90% for the year. Lets keep adding units to this list.

“Success is falling down nine times and getting up ten.” Bou Jovi

I am here to help units just call 320-354-4517. Sandy Wersal



District 1	100%	Unit	90%	Unit	85%	Unit
	Rushford	94	Lanesboro	40	Blooming Prairie	52
	St. Charles	190	Wabasha	50	New Richland	75
	Hokah	498	Spring Valley	68	Owatonna	77
			Grand Meadow	140	Lewiston	90
			Adams	146	Caledonia	191
			Stewartville	164	Glenville	264
			Waseca	228	Hayfield	330
			Kasson	333	Wykoff	369
			Dodge Center	384	Peterson	526
			Claremont	422		
			Houston	423		
			Eyota	551		
			Freeborn	552		
			Millville	579		
			Mazeppa	588		
			LaCrescent	595		

This report along with the previous page came out of the Unit Mailing for May



FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

We can not stop working on membership! We are still 549 member short of last year. We are currently in 6th place in the department, which is disappointing. But the entire department is in the same boat. Minnesota is currently in 5th place at 89.7% in the Northwest Division out of 7 states.

Minnesota starts out gangbusters, then we slow right down. We all know it is hard to get these last 549 members, but it falls on all of us, not just our membership chairs. Our Presidents will be receiving the list from ALAMIS this coming week for non-paid members. Take that list and have members help with those calls. Membership is everyone's job! The District Treasure is still missing per capita for Spring Grove and West Concord, please send to Audrey Farnsworth ASAP. It is how our District operates yearly, its why our members pay their dues.

Department Goals: June 12th-95% and July 4th-100%

I want to Congratulation the Units that have achieved 85% - 90% and 100% see attached sheet from Department. Look at your numbers, some units only need a member or two to achieve getting to 90%! Thank you Membership Chairs for all you have done! For members who have never done membership, this is probably the hardest job in the unit, if they ask for your help, please try to help them!

Membership Chair: Wanda Prescher

FROM YOUR HONORARY AUXILIARY JR PRESIDENT

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



FROM YOUR HONORARY JR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

SOME INFORMATION ON BELIEVET SERVICE DOGS

OUR PROGRAM

The Need

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

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

Our Response

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

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

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

Our Dogs

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

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

Our Facility

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

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

FROM YOUR JR ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN

Our District President Bailey Anderson and 3 juniors from Stewartville Unit 164 and Taylor McElroy from Leroy Unit 161 attended Department Junior Conference April 14th-15th in New Prague. Conference had 34 Juniors, 35 Seniors and 4 American Legion Family guest for a total of 69! A great turnout!

1st District winners for the Poppy Contest:

Poppy Memorial Day Wreath: Class II: 2nd Place - Ashlynn Anderson – Stewartville Unit 164
Class III: 1st Place- Eva Biffert - Stewartville Unit 164

Poppy Corsage/Boutonniere: Class II: 1st Place - Izzy Slovinski-Zipperer-Stewartville Unit 164
2nd Place - Ashlynn Anderson - Stewartville Unit 164

Congratulations to these young ladies!

Our own Past Honorary Junior President Taylor McElroy was elected the 2023-2024 Department of Minnesota Honorary Junior President! Congratulations to Taylor, we in the 1st District are so proud for what she has worked for and accomplished during her time as a Junior! Taylor will be a delegate to the NW Division Junior Conference. Taylor is an example of our future, we all need to get our young people more involved with our Junior Program! It will take some work, but we can do this in our units with a younger member who is willing to take this on and mentor these young ladies.

Pictures of Taylor at the appreciation Rally, and being sworn in as Honorary Department Auxiliary Jr President are below.

Jr. Activities Chair: Wanda Prescher



FROM YOUR POPPY CHAIRMAN

Poppy time is here! Hopefully everyone is set with their plan on how they are distributing poppies in their community! Try to setup with your mayor and local newspaper to have a Poppy Declaration Day for May 26th or the entire month of May, there is still time to do!

Involve your Juniors in making poppy wreaths that can be used during your Memorial Day events, include them in your services that day as well.

Re-

member the poppy contest for the District Convention May 20th in Kasson!

Option 1: Something Wearable, Option 2: Use President Mary's theme "Serve and Honor Everyday", symbol: the State of Minnesota in a centerpiece or wall hanging.

The winners will go on to Department Convention in July! Hope to see at our Convention in Kasson!

Good luck to everyone in however you chose to do your Poppy Distribution, get your Juniors to help as well.

Remember we do this for our veterans and that is only how the proceeds can be spent. The more we raise, the more we can give back to our Department Veterans Programs and what we do for our veterans in our communities!

Poppy Chairman—Wanda Prescher





SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



COMMANDER

Roe Naylor
63106 240th S Brownsdale, MN 55918Gs
Phone - 507-438-5804
EMAIL - roe.land@yahoo.com

ADJUTANT

Dave Bilderback
4409 22 Ave NW Rochester, MN 55901
507—250—1057
dbilderbackb@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

Clint Bettermann
1625 Crestview Lane—Owatonna, MN 55060
507-213-7517
castoney@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

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

FINANCE OFFICER

Gene Luedtke
325 Hoffman Dr, Apt 305 Owatonna, MN 55060
507 -451—5731
gene.luedtke@hotmail.com

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Josh Erickson
278 1/2 East 3rd St , Winona, MN 55987
507 -313-5861
josheric@hbc.com

CHAPLAIN

Ron Wolff
901 8th Ave SW - Waseca, MN 5609
507-456-3817
ronwolff5@gmail.com

Sgt at ARMS

Mark Maloney
845 54th Ave APT E Winona , MN 55987
Phone - 507-513-1582
EMAIL - markmaloney1962@gmail.com

FROM YOUR SAL ADVISOR

Notes from District SAL Advisor Brian:

1. The 1st District SAL Convention will be held at Kasson Legion Post 333 on May 6th, 2023. Executive Board at 9 am. The Convention starts at 10 am. All members of the 1st District SAL are invited to attend.

2. The District SAL is looking for members to fill the following positions:

District Commander

East Vice-Areas 1 and 3-Winona, Olmsted, Wabasha, Fillmore, Houston (Counties)

West Vice-Areas 2 and 4-Dodge, Freeborn, Steele, Mower, Waseca (Counties)

Adjutant

Chaplin

Historian

No experience necessary-just a willingness to serve.

Brian Medinnus

1st District SAL Advisor



With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember

2022 FIRST DISTRICT SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION CALL TO CONVENTION

To all Squadrons of the First District.

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

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

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

Please send certification of your Squadron Delegates and Alternates to:

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

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

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

Squadron _____ MN

Delegates

Alternates

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

Signed _____

Adjutant Squadron # _____

First District SAL Membership for 3/15/2023

Sqdrn.	Location	(7/31/2022)	2023 Goal	Dept	In	Total	% of Goal	Reach
9	Winona	148	154	135		135	87.66%	
40	Lanesboro	58	59	62		62	105.08%	
50	Wabasha	15	21	20		20	95.24%	
52	Blooming Prairie	35	41	35		35	85.37%	
56	Albert Lea	124	130	99		99	76.15%	
75	New Richland	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
77	Owatonna	98	99	87		87	87.88%	
90	Lewiston	47	48	46		46	95.83%	
91	Austin	59	60	60		60	100.00%	
92	Rochester	78	79	71		71	89.87%	
94	Rushford	33	39	13		13	33.33%	
105	Lyle	28	34	31		31	91.18%	
119	Byron	25	26	25		25	96.15%	
140	Grand Meadow	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
146	Adams	107	108	93		93	86.11%	
161	Leroy	33	34	37		37	108.82%	
164	Stewartville	115	121	97		97	80.17%	
166	Preston	39	40	42		42	105.00%	
179	Plainview	10	11	4		4	36.36%	
190	St Charles	9	10	3		3	30.00%	
191	Caledonia	7	13	0		0	0.00%	
228	Waseca	121	127	118		118	92.91%	
249	Spring Grove	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
264	Glenville	59	65	43		43	66.15%	
266	Hartland	11	12	11		11	91.67%	
281	Janesville	7	8	7		7	87.50%	
299	Mabel	13	19	16		16	84.21%	
317	Emmons	41	47	25		25	53.19%	
330	Hayfield	36	42	30		30	71.43%	
333	Kasson	47	53	41		41	77.36%	
384	Dodge Center	8	9	5		5	55.56%	
400	Canton	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
404	Alden	57	58	46		46	79.31%	
423	Houston	13	14	15		15	107.14%	
446	Rochester	36	42	26		26	61.90%	
546	Kellogg	12	13	12		12	92.31%	
551	Eyota	35	41	36		36	87.80%	
552	Freeborn	24	30	23		23	76.67%	
573	Elgin	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
579	Millville	24	30	23		23	76.67%	
595	La Crescent	64	70	75		75	107.14%	
637	Whalan	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
1111	Dakota	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
1st District Totals		1676	1807	1512		1512	83.67%	

DIRECTOR - ROE NAYLOR
 63106 240TH ST
 BROWNSDALE, MN 55918
 Phone - 507-438-5804
 EMAIL - roe.land@yahoo.com



GREETINGS ALL

VICE DIRECTOR - CHUCK STONE
 1625 Crestview Lane
 Owatonna, MN 55060
 Phone - 507 213-7517
 EMAIL - castoney@hotmail.com

SGT at ARMS - JOE SMILLIE
 1001 7th St NW
 Austin, MN 55912
 Phone - 641-590-3522
 EMAIL - joesmillie.js@gmail.com

SECRETARY - SUNSHINE MILLER MALONEY
 845 54th Avenue, Apt E
 Winona, MN 55987
 Phone 507-459-5962
 EMAIL - 928sunshine@gmail.com

FINANCIAL ADVISOR - MARK MALONEY
 845 54th Avenue, Apt E
 Winona, MN 55987
 Phone - 507-513-1582
 EMAIL - markmaloney1962@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN - SCUFFY PAULSON
 26043 St Hwy 43
 Rushford, MN 55971
 Phone - 507-450-8493
 EMAIL - scuffypaulson888@yahoo.com

HISTORIAN - TONIA BETTERMAN
 1625 Crestview Lane
 Owatonna, MN 55060
 PHONE - 507-456-2315
 EMAIL— betttm88@outlook.com

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

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

Nominations of Officers were as follows:

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

Sgt at Arms – is appointed by the Director

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

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

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

2023 First District American Legion Rider Convention Call

To all American Legion Rider Chapters of the First District:

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

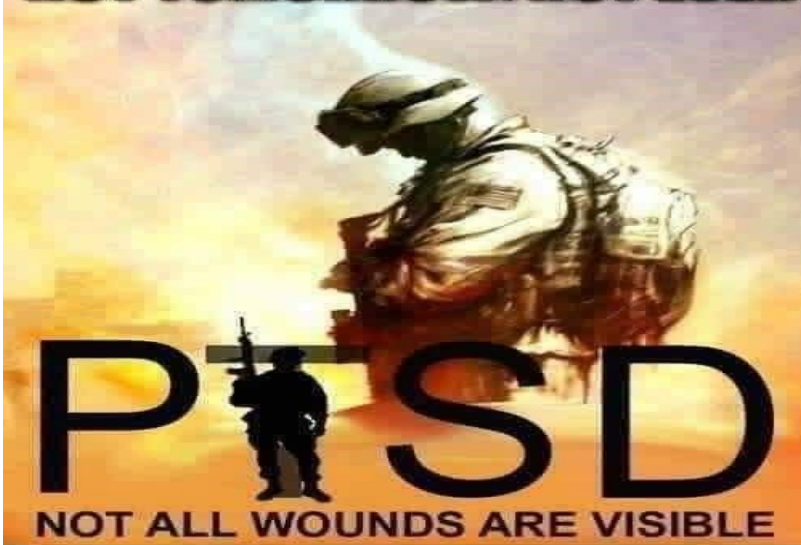
The purpose of this convention meeting is to elect District Officers and to conduct such business of the First District ALR that may properly come before this meeting.

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

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

First District ALR Director
 Roe Naylor

**DON'T YOU DARE GIVE UP
ON THIS LIFE. NOT TONIGHT.
NOT TOMORROW. NOT EVER**



An app for on line mental health

<https://>

www.facebook.com/1000190404830

[31/posts/1054342938543712/?](https://www.facebook.com/1054342938543712/)

[sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROouL](https://www.facebook.com/1054342938543712/?sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROouL)

**Veterans in crisis now eligible for
free care nationwide**

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/>

[www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-](https://www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-crisis-now-eligible-free-care-)

[crisis-now-eligible-free-care-](https://www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-crisis-now-eligible-free-care-)

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

The web page ([betheone.org](https://www.betheone.org)) has been updated with a variety of resources. Among them:

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

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

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

Video links: Vimeo playlist includes videos that can be downloaded and played while offline. They can be shared on social media, posted to the web and played at post events. Additionally, headquarters staff has created [a QR Code](#) for the Be the One page. This can be used to direct others to find information and resources related to the campaign.

How to scan a QR code:

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

Jim Kellogg



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

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



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

Adams Legion Post 146

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

District 1

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

Department

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

National

- National Foreign Relations Committee
- National Security Council
- Parade Committee MN
- Life Member:
 - ~ American Legion
 - ~ VFW
 - ~ DAV
- Member of 40 & 8
- ANNIVICUS
- National Past Dept. Historian Club
- National Past Dept. Commander Club

Community/Personal

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