



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

OCT 2017

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IMPORTANT DATES

October 7, 2017 - First District Fall Rally at Plainview post 179. Exec Boards at 9 AM Rally at 10 AM.

October 9, 2017 Columbus Day

October 26th— 28th, 2017 - Department Fall Conference in Willmar, MN, Please plan on attending, this is where we learn about the new ideas for your programs.

October 31, 2017 - Halloween, Please

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Entrance to the State Veterans Cemetery in Preston, MN

Greeting First District

The National Convention is over and we are officially into our new year. Reno did a great job of hosting the convention. We had some very talented and deserving individuals receiving awards. Denise Rohan was elected National Commander, Diane Duscheck National Auxiliary President and Dan Smith our new SAL Commander. We all look forward to working with our new leaders and wish them a great year.

President Trump addressed the convention and gave a very good veteran related speech. Before he departed, he signed into law a Bill that speeds up the appeals process on veteran's health care.

Our Minnesota ALR did a fantastic job of raising \$200,000 dollars for the Legacy Fund. The National total raised for the fund came to over \$1,200,000 dollars for the children.

The annual Camp-O-Ree was held September 7th – 10th at Legionville. Camping was slow the first few days, but by Saturday it was quite busy. The Harvest Rally was a great success. We had more people there than I have seen in years.

I had the honor of attending the Kellogg Watermelon Days Festival September 10th. It is unbelievable how this small town can attract so many floats, bands and people. I had a great time. Thanks for all the fun and food.

All new District Commanders and National Security and Foreign Relations Chairman were invited to Camp Ripley September 15th – 17th. We received some valuable information and planned the coming year's program. We were given a guided tour of the camp. On Sunday there was an open house for the Changing of Command of the camp. This was my first visit to Camp Ripley, what a memorable experience.

On Tuesday September 19th, I had the honor of attending the Freeborn County Commissioners meeting. They honored all County and Purple Heart Veterans. A Resolution was read proclaiming Freeborn County the First Purple Heart County in Minnesota.

We had our Area 3, Veteran Affairs and Rehab rally at Preston Saturday September 23rd. We met at the post at 2 pm. We then proceeded to the new Veterans Cemetery. Sasha Holst, Cemetery Representative, explained how the burial program worked. The military Honor Guard along with the Firing Squad from Preston Post 166 then staged a mock funeral. We then returned to the post for the meeting. We had a great turnout, the club was full. Thanks to Post 166 for being a great host.

The District Fall Conference will be held in Plainview post 179 on Saturday October 7th. The Exec Boards will meet at 9AM with the main meeting starting at 10AM. Please plan to attend. Let's have a great turnout.

The Department Fall Conference will be held in Willmar October 26th – 28th. There are a few changes to program this year. Everyone should plan to attend this meeting. This is where you learn what the Legion is about.

We are currently in 3rd place in Department. We received a challenge from the 6th District to be at 75% by Fall Conference. We can do this. Keep up the good work. Keep sending those memberships in every week.

God Bless our troops and God Bless America

Les Shaunce—Commander

FROM AREA ONE

FROM AREA TWO

Hello, Fall!

What a beautiful Autumn we are having! Let's hope this wonderful weather sticks around for a while.

On Oct 7 in Plainview, there is a Fall Rally. This should be a good time.

I will be attending the membership supper at Waseca Post 228 on Oct 21st. I am really looking forward to that.

Fall Conference will be at the Willmar POST 167. That will take place on Oct 27-28.

I attended the Area 3 rally that was recently held in Preston, MN at the Service Men's Club. We visited the beautiful Preston cemetery. It was a beautiful time of year to be down there. Thank you so much for the wonderful hospitality! It was a great turn out.

Before you know it, Halloween will be upon us. Make sure you look out for all those ghost and goblins!

And as always, keep our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers!

Area Vice Commander,
Myron Ehrich

FROM AREA THREE

Greetings from Area Three:

For those of you who missed our rally on September 23 in Preston, you missed an outstanding presentation given to us by the staff of the Veteran's Cemetery. They went through the complete service that would be performed when a service is held there. If anyone has an opportunity to tour the cemetery, please do so because you will be impressed.

I want to congratulate the Membership Directors on the outstanding job they are doing to start the New Year. It is, however, a job that never ends. Once again, make sure you contact the Snow Birds before they head south for the winter.

If you have any money you can spare from your gambling fund, please consider giving to the Hurricane Relief fund through the American Legion.

As always, make sure you remember our men and women in uniform.

Area Three Vice Commander

FROM AREA FOUR

Greetings Comrades in Mower and Freeborn County:

I attended a National Security meeting at Camp Ripley. I brought back information on various topics such as ROTC in our colleges. Let me know if you would like to visit your Post.

I have been in contact with both County Commanders to try and come up with a strategic plan to add the younger Veterans to our membership. If you have any ideas let me know.

Our membership Rally held on September 23rd was held in Preston and included a tour of the Veterans Cemetery with a mock funeral. If you haven't visited the Preston Cemetery now is a good time to do it.

We have been challenged by another District to have 75% of our membership renewed by Fall Conference (Oct. 27&28). Let's meet or exceed this goal. Remember to thank a veteran.

Area 4 Vice Commander, Rollie Hanson

First district membership report for 9/28/2017

POST	LOCATION	GOAL	PREVIOUS	TURN IN	TOTAL	PERCENT	LEFT
9	WINONA	597	405	17	422	70.69%	175
90	LEWISTON	78	42	1	43	55.13%	35
190	ST CHARLES	144	107	10	117	81.25%	27
WINONA COUNTY TOTALS		819	554	28	582	71.06%	237
50	WABASHA	242	159	2	161	66.53%	81
110	LAKE CITY	141	106	5	111	78.72%	30
179	PLAINVIEW	194	129	1	130	67.01%	64
546	KELLOGG	73	30	11	41	56.16%	32
573	ELGIN	37	19	2	21	56.76%	16
579	MILLVILLE	140	123	4	127	90.71%	13
588	MAZEPPA	78	44	1	45	57.69%	33
WABASHA COUNTY TOTALS		905	610	26	636	70.28%	269
92	ROCHESTER	988	656	12	668	67.61%	320
119	BYRON	148	70	36	106	71.62%	42
164	STEWARTVILLE	305	204	4	208	68.20%	97
446	ROCHESTER	17	11	3	14	82.35%	3
551	EYOTA	183	111	1	112	61.20%	71
OLMSTEAD COUNTY TOTALS		1641	1052	56	1108	67.52%	533
AREA ONE TOTALS		3365	2216	110	2326	69.12%	1039
295	WEST CONCORD	57	27	9	36	63.16%	21
330	HAYFIELD	242	145	19	164	67.77%	78
333	KASSON	269	189	1	190	70.63%	79
384	DODGE CENTER	87	52	1	53	60.92%	34
422	CLAREMONT	36	24	1	25	69.44%	11
DODGE COUNTY TOTALS		691	437	31	468	67.73%	223
52	BLOOMING PRAIRIE	111	78	12	90	81.08%	21
77	OWATONNA	556	264	91	355	63.85%	201
296	ELLENDALE	33	4	1	5	15.15%	28
STEELE COUNTY TOTALS		700	346	104	450	64.29%	250
75	NEW RICHLAND	58	30	9	39	67.24%	19
228	WASECA	342	233	11	244	71.35%	98
281	JANESVILLE	102	65	3	68	66.67%	34
587	WALDORF	22	4	17	21	95.45%	1
WASECA COUNTY TOTALS		524	332	40	372	70.99%	152
AREA TWO TOTALS		1915	1115	175	1290	67.36%	625

First of all, thanks to those that sent cards and the phone calls, I'm doing well. I got home Sunday the 24th. Sorry I missed the Preston turn in. I just got the new numbers from Misty. Ever thing should be up to date.

We have talked about on the 6th Dist. challenge, here's my challenge to the 4 area Vice Commanders All 4 should be at 75% by the Fall Conference. I know its close now but all four are with the distance of getting there. Also I would like to see as many of the posts as possible at 75%. And again there is no reason why you can't be there, some of you are already past that and these should be at 100% by then.

We have moved up to third place, that's because you've been sending in the renewals, every little bit helps when the numbers are close, so keep up the good work and next report we could be in second.....

Gary Miller - Membership Director

40	LANESBORO	106	62	6	68	64.15%	38	9/24/2017
68	SPRING VALLEY	85	36	15	51	60.00%	34	9/28/2017
81	HARMONY	34	11	11	22	64.71%	12	9/14/2017
94	RUSHFORD	134	61	13	74	55.22%	60	9/14/2017
166	PRESTON	76	33	20	53	69.74%	23	9/14/2017
197	CHATFIELD	50	38	4	42	84.00%	8	9/14/2017
299	MABEL	179	106	1	107	59.78%	72	9/24/2017
369	WYKOFF	19	0	1	1	5.26%	18	7/19/2017
400	CANTON	13	0	1	1	7.69%	12	7/19/2017
492	FOUNTAIN	15	1	7	8	53.33%	7	8/23/2017
526	PETERSON	37	23	2	25	67.57%	12	9/28/2017
544	OSTRANDER	29	19	3	22	75.86%	7	9/28/2017
637	WHALEN	15	1	11	12	80.00%	3	8/3/2017
FILLMORE COUNTY TOTALS		792	391	95	486	61.36%	306	9/28/2017
191	CALEDONIA	170	104	28	132	77.65%	38	9/14/2017
249	SPRING GROVE	162	42	15	57	35.19%	105	9/14/2017
423	HOUSTON	113	57	2	59	52.21%	54	9/24/2017
498	HOKAH	20	10	4	14	70.00%	6	9/14/2017
595	LA CRESCENT	324	216	9	225	69.44%	99	9/28/2017
HOUSTON COUNTY TOTALS		789	429	58	487	61.72%	302	9/28/2017
AREA THREE TOTALS		1581	820	153	973	61.54%	608	9/28/2017
56	ALBERT LEA	678	438	8	446	65.78%	232	9/28/2017
264	GLENVILLE	87	41	7	48	55.17%	39	9/28/2017
266	HARTLAND	15	1	14	15	100.00%	0	9/14/2017
317	EMMONS	72	35	10	45	62.50%	27	9/24/2017
404	ALDEN	109	73	8	81	74.31%	28	9/28/2017
552	FREEBORN	38	32	2	34	89.47%	4	9/28/2017
FREEBORN COUNTY TOTALS		999	620	49	669	66.97%	330	9/28/2017
91	AUSTIN	610	361	5	366	60.00%	244	9/28/2017
105	LYLE	92	34	1	35	38.04%	57	9/24/2017
140	GRAND MEAD-	50	27	7	34	68.00%	16	9/24/2017
146	ADAMS	219	86	29	115	52.51%	104	9/14/2017
161	LEROY	66	27	10	37	56.06%	29	9/14/2017
570	AUSTIN SPAM	5	5	1	6	120.00%	-1	8/23/2017
MOWER COUNTY TOTALS		1042	540	53	593	56.91%	449	9/28/2017
AREA FOUR TOTALS		2041	1160	102	1262	61.83%	779	9/28/2017
1111	DAKOTA	51	0	0	0	0.00%	0	9/24/2017

AREA VICE								
AREA ONE		3365	2216	110	2326	69.12%	1039	9/28/2017
AREA TWO		1915	1915	175	1290	67.36%	625	9/28/2017
AREA THREE		1581	820	153	973	61.54%	608	9/28/2017
AREA FOUR		2041	1160	102	1262	61.83%	779	9/28/2017

FROM YOUR LEGION CHAPLAIN

Thank you God, for life and breath. Thank You for Jesus who makes life worth living. For all that you've done in my life, blessings I see and those I don't. Thank You. Thank you for forgiveness and healing that you pour into my life everyday. Forgive me, Lord. I forget so often how blessed I am. I forget what it cost you to redeem me. Thank you for bearing all the ugliness of my sin and disobedience on the cross. Thank you for Dying in my place. Thank you for filling me with your Holy Spirit so I have power and can live in love with a sound mind everyday. Thank you for freedom from destructive addiction and lifestyles. I choose today to live in grateful response to your presence with me and your loving care for me. I give myself to you again right here, right now, in this place. Use me for your glory. In Jesus name, Amen.

I had planned on changing this from an Individual prayer to a joint prayer, instead I challenge all of you to read this using plural words such as WE, OUR, US

Gary L. Weaver

1st District Chaplain

COMMANDER LES WANTED THIS LIST OF PHEASANT DINNERS SO EVERYONE WOULD KNOW WHERE AND WHEN THEY ARE.

ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	Number of Birds	Date Time of Dinner
ONE VETERANS DRIVE	MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55417	150	11-16-17/12noon
4801 VETERANS DRIVE	ST. CLOUD	MN	56308	300	10-18-17/12noon
2101 ELM ST. N (120)	FARGO	MN	58102	40	11-11-17/12noon
2501 W 22ND ST	SIOUX FALLS	MN	57105	50 (100 halves)	TBA
5101 MINNEHAHA AVE S	MINNEAPOLIS	MN	55417	250	11-02-17/12noon
1200 E 18TH ST	HASTINGS	MN	55033	80 (160 halves)	10-19-17/12noon
56 Outer Drive	SILVER BAY	MN	55614	96	11-15-17/1pm
1300 N XNISS AVE	LIVERNE	MN	56156	70	11-09-17/12noon
1821 NORTH PARK ST	FERGLIS FALLS	MN	56537	105	11-17-17/12noon
100 FREEMAN DRIVE	ST. PETER	MN	56082	100	TBA
708 Front St	BRAINERD	MN	56401	18 (36 HALVES)	10-25-17/5PM
9964 355th Ave	Pierz	MN	56364	36	10-26-17/5pm
220 19TH AVE SW	WILLMAR	MN			

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



**A SIX PASSENGER GOLF CART FOR THE STATE
VETERANS CEMETERY IN PRESTON, MN.
TO BE USED TO TRANSPORT FAMILY MEMBERS TO
THE GRAVE SITES OF THEIR LOVED ONES.**

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220 19TH AVE SW	WILLMAR	MN			



Military Honor Detail preparing for a comital program at the State Veteran Cemetery in Preston, MN

A view of the State Veteran Cemetery looking east from the main building.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FIRST DISTRICT AUXILIARY NEWS



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Notice - All Auxiliary Members

You will be receiving a packet of mailing labels this Fall. It is a Department fundraiser for Minnesota. Please support this project - it is not a hoax. The mailing will come from Victory 360, Baltimore, MD

Thank you in advance ~
Secretary Sandie

Fall Conference - October 27-28 Willmar

September was a splendid month of meeting new people, and catching up with old friends. Thank you to the Kellogg American Legion Post and Auxiliary for including me in your Kellogg Watermelon Festival Parade. June Ratz and I sure had fun throwing out Candy and little toy soldiers during the parade. (Thanks Jill Mueller for the idea of the soldiers)!! Kids loved going after those!! The lunch and visiting time afterwards was appreciated as well!!



Thanks to the Kellogg American Legion Auxiliary and Post for inviting me to the Kellogg Watermelon Festival Parade. I am pictured here with Unit President June Ratz.

I also thank the Waldorf ALA Unit for inviting me to your meeting and for the delicious lunch afterwards. I loved hearing how you support one another, and the joyful nature which you conduct your meeting!! It was also encouraging to see the Legionnaires come in to the room and hear the Girl Stater speak, as well as the presentation I offered. It took me a little longer to get home (LOL) than to get there. Thank you again for your generous hospitality!!



I received a great welcome from this beautiful group of Auxiliary ladies and Legionnaires from the Waldorf Unit and Post. However, the little one in front definitely stole my heart.

I urge all Units to remember that there is a place for everyone in your Unit to help in the programs. As Department President Donna says, “Age is not an excuse, we should all be open to sharing.” Share your story why the American Legion Auxiliary is important to you; show hospitality to new members, and always include them, don’t assume that they know what the acronyms you are saying mean. Explain in detail all that you are doing! I stand with her reminding that everyone has a place in the Auxiliary. They don’t have to lead a committee or be an officer to take part in the Auxiliary. Do what you can, and celebrate that!

Communication is key within our District, and if you aren’t receiving the District Newsletter, please let me know; we can get you on the email list, or I can mail it to you each month; you just have to let me know. My contact information is listed above. When you receive that newsletter, share it with your members!

October is American Legion Auxiliary Education month

What are you doing this month to support your area Educational facilities, staff and students? Below I have listed some of the suggestions from Dept. Education Chair Mary French along with her contact information. These committee chairman are here to help us, so don't be afraid to reach out and ask those questions you have!

MN Department Education Chair: Mary French, Education Chairman
 Department of Minnesota
 2002 Butler Ave South
 St Paul, MN 55075

kenmaryf@comcast.net

What a great time to donate school supplies {They are all needed all school year} under the Give 10 to Education program.

Use the below with ideas or check with your schools for what they need. Take pictures and send them to me along with the form(on the opposite page) as they will be needed for reporting at Fall Conference.

Promote American Legion Auxiliary scholarships in your schools.

Veterans in Community Schools is another great program to promote respect for Veterans and their sacrifices. Check with your schools asking if they would like a Veteran to speak to the students. What a great way to have history come alive for the students.

2017-2018 Give 10 to Education

Unit Name and Number _____

Education Chairman _____

Item
Books
Backpack
Loose Paper
Notebooks
Folders
3 Ring Binders
Pens
Pencils
Highlighters
Scissors
Glue
Pencil Box
Kleenex

Crayons
Hand Sanitizers
Baked Goods
Snacks
Mentoring/Reading
Donation to School
Donation to Library
Donation to Scholarship
Clothing
Patriotic Item
Sports/Games
Craft Supplies
Box Tops
Pop Tabs
\$ Value from Boxtops4education.com
TOTALS:

Although I was unable to attend the Sept. Rally in Preston, I heard that the presentation at the State Veteran's Cemetery was wonderful. Thanks to Preston for hosting that. Hope to see you all in Plainview for the Fall Rally on Saturday, October 7th.

Below, I conclude with the following 'Thought for the Day'.

Cheryl Nymann, District 1 President

*Dear Veterans and Currently Serving Armed Services Personnel,
Those of us who have not served will never fully understand the sacrifices you've made both in times of peace and of war. We will never fully understand what you were required to do or how you were able to do it. We will never fully understand the depth of your scars. But what we can offer you is this:*

We see you.

We recognize your humanity.

And we send you Love that is gentle, patient and healing.

With Blessings and gratitude, we ask that you remember you are loved.

Thank you.



Legion Family members at the Rally at the Preston Serviceman's Club on September 23, 2017.

More Legion Family Members present at the September 23, 2017 Rally.



First District Auxiliary Membership numbers for 9/29/17

NAME	Goal	Sr gain	Jr gain	period gain	Current	Totals	Percent	Jr total	Sr Totals
Adams	148	0	0	0	0	59	39.86%	10	49
Albet Lea	342	22	1	23	23	59	17.25%	2	57
Alden	49	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Austin	169	0	0	0	0	1	0.59%	0	1
Blooming Prairie	118	1	0	1	1	3	2.54%	0	3
Byron	95	11	1	12	12	16	16.84%	1	15
Caledonia	79	0	0	0	0	39	49.37%	0	39
Chatfield	40	0	0	0	0	3	7.50%	0	3
Claremont	22	0	0	0	0	2	9.09%	1	1
Dodge Center	81	0	0	0	0	2	2.47%	0	2
Elgin	24	0	0	0	0	1	4.17%	0	1
Emmons	32	0	0	0	0	1	3.13%	0	1
Eyota	109	1	1	2	2	6	5.50%	1	5
Freeborn	65	2	0	2	2	50	76.92%	6	44
Glenville	111	15	0	15	15	22	19.82%	1	21
Grand Meadow	79	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Harmony	53	0	0	0	0	1	1.89%	0	1
Hayfield	198	2	0	2	2	8	4.04%	0	8
Hokah	21	0	0	0	0	3	14.29%	0	3
Houston	144	0	0	0	0	4	2.78%	0	4
Janesville	61	0	0	0	0	8	13.11%	0	8
Kasson	151	0	0	0	0	7	4.64%	0	7
Kellogg	141	6	0	6	6	12	8.51%	0	12
La Crescent	233	2	0	2	2	36	15.45%	2	34
Lake City	88	31	7	38	38	41	46.59%	7	34
Lanesboro	104	1	0	1	1	4	3.85%	0	4
LeRoy	68	11	4	15	0	15	22.06%	6	9
Lewiston	42	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Lyle	55	0	0	0	0	1	1.82%	0	1
Mabel	139	0	0	0	0	14	10.07%	0	14
Mazeppa	54	0	0	0	0	2	3.70%	0	2
Millville	50	0	0	0	0	5	10.00%	0	5
New Richland	66	0	0	0	0	2	3.03%	0	2
Ostrander	18	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Owatonna	138	1	0	1	1	6	4.35%	0	6
Peterson	38	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
Plainview	185	0	0	0	0	5	2.70%	0	5
Rochester	183	1	0	0	1	26	14.21%	0	26
Rushford	78	0	0	0	0	1	1.28%	0	1
Spring Grove	144	0	0	0	0	1	0.69%	0	1
Spring Valley	47	1	0	1	1	6	12.77%	0	6
St Charles	81	21	0	21	21	21	25.93%	0	21
Stewartville	188	0	0	0	0	43	22.87%	6	37

50	Wabasha	142	0	0	0	0	22	15.49%	0	22
587	Waldorf	30	0	0	0	0	8	26.67%	0	8
228	Waseca	237	0	0	0	0	2	0.84%	0	2
295	West Concord	37	0	0	0	0	2	5.41%	0	2
637	Whalen	25	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
9	Winona	181	0	0	0	0	10	5.52%	0	10
369	Wykoff	17	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
	District	4,696	118	10	128	128	579	12.33%	42	537

Hello Members of the 1st District Auxiliary;

Membership notices have been sent out and you should be receiving those dues by now. Please send them to Department in a timely manner so that we can see our numbers grow. Remind your members to send their dues in right away before we all get busy with the holidays and forget. We have 6 units still at 0% hoping to have none by Fall Rally on October 7th. The goals are the same as last year and very doable for us all. Please let me know if I can help in anyway, cell number [608-881-9049](tel:608-881-9049) or email weaver.michelle595@gmail.com. Let's have the 1st District in the #1 spot this year!!!

Michelle Weaver
1st District Membership Chairman

**Gilmore-Stensrud Post #552 in Freeborn MN Auxiliary dates of upcoming events
December 3, 2017 Santa/Hospice Tree Lighting/Christmas Potluck/Bingo party at
Freeborn Legion Hall beginning at 3:00**

January 27, 2018 Soup N' Pie/Dessert at Freeborn Legion Hall time: 4:00 to 6:00

**Thank You
Sandy Anderson
Auxiliary President**



**Sasha Holtz from the
Preston Cemetery ex-
plaining how the com-
mittal ceremony is con-
ducted**

FROM YOUR HONORY JUNIOR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT**JOHANNA (JO JO) WELTER**

Greetings First District,

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

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

May God continue to bless the USA!
JoJo Welter

A reminder to All Units of 1st District (President/Treasurer)

As you know, the American Legion Auxiliary is a membership organization. Our budgets are set on membership. Per capita is what allows the District to meet their obligations.

Every year we lose members. Why?? This is not all due to death. We need to Renew-Recruit-Rejoin members. I'm sure that each of you know one person that is eligible for membership in our auxiliary. Do not hesitate to ask them to join.

Membership chairman Michelle is hoping to get the 1st District back on top. If we all work together, great things can be accomplished.

Enclosed in this mailing is a listing of your UNITS per capita for 2017-2018. Your per capita is based on your membership as of July 31, 2017. (Membership x \$2) On this same sheet, you will note every Unit has District Junior dues of \$10.00.

Please mail your per capita and district junior dues to me, NOT the Department. Let's get this done early this year. Some units wait until April. It then becomes crunch time as the books get audited in early May so as to have a preliminary report for District Convention.

Your donation to the District Presidents project, Honorary Junior Presidents project, memorials, etc, should be mailed to me also.

Make your check out to the First District ALA (American Legion Auxiliary).

Please mail to me, 1st District Treasurer, at the following address:

Audrey Farnsworth	email: harlee@charter.net
302 First St. E.	Phone – 507-533-4454
Stewartville, MN 55976	Cell – 507-226-2992

It is my hope that all Units from the 1st District have filed the Form 990-N with the IRS (for tax-exempt status). Your Unit President/Treasurer should be aware that this is filed annually. All Units in the Department of Minnesota have to file this form. Let's get the checks in the mail and meet our obligations early. Let's make President Cheryl and the First District proud of our great organization!

Tidbits from the Treasurer-----

To all Units in First District – this is an annual fee for each unit.

This is the per capita amount for 2017-2018. The per Capita increased this year to \$2/per member. Every unit has an annual \$10.00 District Junior Fee also. Please double check to make sure my math is correct. These are the monies that the 1st District operates on for the year. ***This will only be printed this mailing – so, please keep for future reference and inform your unit treasurer.***

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Per Capita</u>	<u>Jr. Dues</u>	<u>Total Members</u>
Adams	\$276	\$10.00	138
Albert Lea	\$658	\$10.00	329
Alden	\$88	\$10.00	44
Austin	\$286	\$10.00	143
Blooming Prairie	\$230	\$10.00	115
Byron	\$180	\$10.00	90
Caledonia	\$152	\$10.00	76
Chatfield	\$78	\$10.00	39
Claremont	\$42	\$10.00	21
Dodge Center	\$152	\$10.00	76
Elgin	\$36	\$10.00	18
Emmons	\$52	\$10.00	26
Eyota	\$200	\$10.00	100
Freeborn	\$126	\$10.00	63
Glenville	\$216	\$10.00	108
Grand Meadow	\$144	\$10.00	72
Harmony	\$108	\$10.00	54
Hayfield	\$386	\$10.00	193
Hokah	\$38	\$10.00	19

Houston	\$276	\$10.00	138
Janesville	\$104	\$10.00	52
Kasson	\$290	\$10.00	145
Kellogg	\$260	\$10.00	130
LaCrescent	\$450	\$10.00	225
Lake City	\$156	\$10.00	78
Lanesboro	\$190	\$10.00	95
Leroy	\$102	\$10.00	51
Lewiston	\$74	\$10.00	37
Lyle	\$90	\$10.00	45
Mabel	\$270	\$10.00	135
Mazeppa	\$84	\$10.00	42
Millville	\$86	\$10.00	43
New Richland	\$120	\$10.00	60
Ostrander	\$30	\$10.00	15
Owatonna	\$246	\$10.00	123
Peterson	\$74	\$10.00	37
Plainview	\$354	\$10.00	177
Rochester	\$348	\$10.00	174
Rushford	\$150	\$10.00	75
Spring Grove	\$258	\$10.00	129
Spring Valley	\$88	\$10.00	44
St. Charles	\$130	\$10.00	65
Stewartville	\$350	\$10.00	175
Wabasha	\$260	\$10.00	130

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



COMMANDER

Dave Nelson

Albert Lea, MN
507-383-1115
Didavemn@gmail.com

ADJUTANT

Gary Weaver
29 North Elm St
LaCrescent, MN 55947
507-450-9580
gweaver@acegroup.cc

EAST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Jeremiah Oeltjen

Stewartville, MN

WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

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

MEMBERSHIP

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

Greetings fellow family members!

Greetings from your District SAL!

I can't believe it's October! Legionville camporee and Harvest rally was another success. We should hear at the department fall conference as to what we helped raise for Legionville. As usual the first district steak fry was delicious. And the golf game was won by a top notch guy... (Me! Lol!) Thanks to Cindy Nelson, and the other volunteers who helped in the snack shack. We are already planning for next year. If you haven't been to a Camporee, I would strongly suggest it. This was my second year attending. There were many Legion family members that have been going for 40 plus years, and they are appreciative of what we do. We met many new friends who we would not have met if we wouldn't have gone. We also got to spend time with friends who we only see momentarily at department functions.

I hope everyone can make our fall rally in Plainview. Remember exec board is at 9, with regular meetings to follow. I ask that we all invite at least one new person to attend.

One last thing...

What have we done to help our American Legion family? What have we done to help a veteran? What have we done to educate our children and youth on why we do what we do? With as many distractions as we have in these current times, we cannot deter from what our goals are as an organization.

Until we see each other again,
Commander Dave

SQUADRON 92, ROCHESTER, MN MONTHLY EVENT

SAL Fish and Chicken Dinner.

The Third Friday of each month - September thru May.

At the Legion Post 92 Club in Rochester.

\$11.00 for all you can eat.



2017 - 2018 Individual Recruitment Award

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

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

Recruiter Information

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

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

New Member Information

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

VERIFYING SIGNATURES

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

RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO: (Regional Membership Chairman)

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

PINS WILL MAILED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

RIDERS CONTACT INFORMATION



DIRECTOR

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

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Dale Nicholson
Glenville, MN

SECRETARY

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

SGT AT ARMS

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

HISTORIAN

Kassy Bettermann
1625 Crestview Lane
Owatonna, MN

CHAPLAIN

Dan Klingfus
Austin, MN 55912
507/573/2329

ROAD CAPTAIN

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



MN 1st District Legion Family Fall Rally

Saturday, October 7th
Plainview American Legion

Cost is \$5.00

9:00am Legion Executive Board Meets
(The Auxiliary Executive Board is not meeting)



10:00am Rally Begins
Guest Speaker from "Project New Hope"

Noon Lunch provided by ALA Unit #179
Barbeques, Salad, Chip, Desert
Cost is \$8.00



1:00pm Rally Continues
Guest Speaker TBD

BE SURE TO BID ON SILENT AUCTION ITEMS!!

Some of these Silent Auction Items include:



*Fall Decorations
Mum Plant
Homemade Rosettes
Patriotic Items*



All proceeds will benefit District President Cheryl's Projects:
Project New Hope and Hastings Veteran's Home Greenhouse



LIGHTING VETERANS PATHS

**The American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Minnesota
will be holding a Silent Auction at
FALL CONFERENCE**

(October 26th – 28th)

Willmar, MN

**The funds for this auction will be dedicated to the
American Legion Auxiliary**

EMERGENCY FUND

Please Bring New or Like New items, i.e. theme baskets, jellies, tools,
etc., to Fall Conference.

Don't sell your item short you know the value of the items you're donating. Please place a minimum bid on a white index card. Let's knock this fundraiser out of the park and make President Donna Arends Proud by showing how important we believe this program is! For units or members not attending Fall Conference you may send a donation to the Department office, earmarking it ALA Emergency Fund

Adopt a Vet
Hastings Veterans Home

We give you a first name, branch of service, and size or hobby

You shop and wrap the gifts. No weapons or alcohol based items please

Bring items labeled with the vet's name to Hastings by December 11th

We will have groups out west and south who will help with transportation. Please don't waste money on mailing them.

There is no limit to what to spend but please think modest in range.

Contact me if you have any questions. We are sending this out early to give you time to work with your organizations and friends. Please let me know as soon as you can with numbers of vets you would like to adopt. Sometimes a few is better than a bunch so they can each be treated as individuals. Gift cards are welcomed too but we would like at least one gift wrapped so they have something to open. Gift cards for our local area are best. I can give you a list if you desire.

If your group has more funds and would like to help out more, we are always looking for \$10 gift cards to use for motivation and rewards for weight loss, stopping smoking, exercise programs, and more. These are a great way for us to treat those working hard to improve their lives. We do also have transitioning Veterans who may need a bit of extra help as they move out of our Home into the community. I try to find \$50 Walmart cards for each of them to buy supplies and such.

Again, thank you for considering the Hastings Veterans Home in your holiday planning. We love our vets.

Sincerely,

Sue Register

651-539-2442

Trim the Tree

When: December 1, 2017

6:30-8:00

Where: Hastings Veterans Home Gym

We will gather together this year in the gym. We will have many decorations to choose from but you may bring your own too.

At that time you will be given an area or tree to decorate. Please involve the veterans in your area. Sit in our new dayroom chairs, and have fun. You may sing any songs you want. You can bring any treats you want. Just come and have fun with us.

After you are done, feel free to come back to the gym and join others to complete the decorating of the gym. There we will have coffee, and more treats to share. Music will be going on in the gym and also Daniels coffee shop. If you have those who like to sing, play piano or other musical instruments, they all will be welcomed. We have a key board in the lobby as well as in the chapel. We will have a sing-a-long in the gym as we conclude our decorating.

Cost to you? Only your time a few homemade treats and the gas to get to the Home.

Benefit to us.....priceless.

PLEASE CHECK OUT THIS PAGE AND ALSO PAGES 25 AND 26. THESE ALL HAVE TO DO WITH CHRISTMAS PROJECTS FOR THE HASTINGS VETERAN HOME.



SAL Scrambled Egg Breakfast

S	Serving: 9:00AM-1:00PM	OCT.
U	American Legion Post #132	
N	New Ulm	
D	Scrambled Eggs made from Farm Fresh	
A	Eggs	
Y	Hand-Made Sausage Patties	
	Breakfast Potatoes	8,
	Muffins	2
	Adults \$7.00 Under 5 - Free	0
	Proceeds To Benefit Local Programs	1
		7

Sons of the American Legion

Please join us for our

6th ANNUAL OYSTER STEW & CHILI FEED

Saturday, October 14th, 2017

From 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Blooming Prairie Servicemen's Club

210 4th St NE

Just off US Hwy 218

Menu: Oyster Stew, Chili, Fresh Bread, Dessert,
Milk & Coffee

- EVERYONE WELCOME!!!
- DOOR PRIZES!!!
- COST IS A FREE WILL DONATION
TO THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN
LEGION SQUADRON #52

LIVER FEED



**Includes fried potatoes,
onions and a bun.**

**Not a liver lover?
Enjoy hamburger steak!
\$7.00 per person**

Proceeds go to Legion Marching Unit

Saturday, November 4th, 5 p.m.

Waseca American Legion

700 South State St ~ 507-833-9935



HOT DISH LUNCH



Ya Shure, You Betchya!

**Enjoy homemade
hot dishes!**

11 a.m. ~ 1 p.m.

or until sold out

\$7 per person

Proceeds go toward Legion Auxiliary projects

Friday, October 27th ~ 11 a.m.

Waseca American Legion

700 South State St ~ 507-833-9935

