



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

MAY 2017

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VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

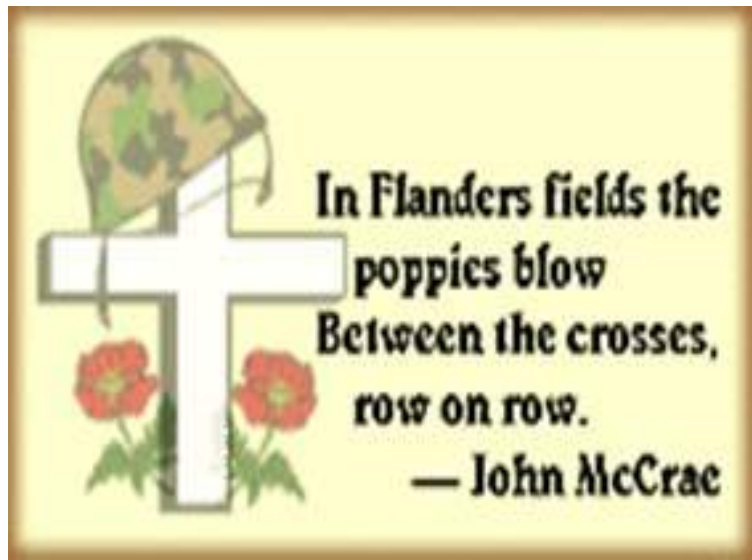
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IMPORTANT DATES

- May 6, 2017 - Department Commander's testimony at Shooting Star Casino.
- May 13, 2017 - First District SAL Convention at Albert Lea Post 56. More information in the SAL section
- May 19, 2017 - First District Executive Board meetings for convention in Albert Lea Post 56. Auxiliary will be at 11:00 am and the Legion will be at 3:00 pm.
- May 20, 2017 - First District Convention in Albert Lea Post 56. More information can be found in the call to convention pages in each section of this newsletter.
- May 29, 2017—Memorial Day, plan on either helping out or attending a Memorial Service in your area.. We must not forget about all the sacrifices that have been made for our freedoms.

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FROM YOUR COMMANDER'S PEN

Legion Family,

First off I need to thank all who attended my testimonial April 8th. What an absolutely amazing night for me as well as my family. To have PNC Dan Ludwig and his wife Mary, Dept Commander Denise Milton and her husband Dennis, Dept. Membership Director Mark Dvorik and his wife Linda, Department 1st and 3rd Vice-Commander Richard Skillstead, Department Historian Ralph Schneekloth and his wife Esther, District President Cindy Nelson, District SAL Commander Ron Wolff and his wife Lynn, as well as all the other District officers who graced us with their presents. A special shout out to SGT-at-Arms Jerry Nelson and his color guard team for posting the colors. Once again Rose Albrecht made an amazing meal for all to enjoy. I am so blessed to have the friends and family that I do. Thank you for the very nice gifts as well as the donations to my project. God Bless you all !!!

The end of the membership year is close at hand. Let's make those phone calls and finish the year strong. We are currently in 6th place in Department. We can do better.

It is also that time of year to be sure and get your officers list together as well as the Consolidated Post Report completed. Every Post does something that is on the report. Whether it be talking to someone about Veterans benefits, donating blood, assisting another Post with a funeral or being in a parade even if it just 1 individual representing the American Legion, it all counts. The Post report can be filled out and submitted on line or do a hard copy mail in but either way it is extremely important that this gets done. I had a wonderful evening at the Hayfield Legion Family spelling bee on April 20th. The kids in grades 3rd thru 5th competed. Each class had some tough words to spell and gave their best.

Due to me attending my mother memorial May 20th I will not be able to attend the District Convention. I have asked Past District Commander Gary Weaver to fill in for me. Since he got me started on the District he can end my year for me. I hope that folks don't get too anxious to want to get done with the Convention and want to get home. We have Conventions for a reason and it is important to take the time to get the yearly work done. Be sure to stay around after the Convention and help support the Albert Lea Post. It takes a lot of work and money to put on a Convention so stick around, socialize, and have fun.

God Bless you. God Bless our troops. Keep them and our POW'S/MIA'S in your prayers.

Sy Fix Commander



Commander Sy at his testimonial supper in LaCrescent, MN

FIRST DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 4/26/2017								
POST	LOCATION		PREVI-	TURN IN	TOTAL	PERCENT	LEFT	DATE
9	WINONA	639	587	2	589	92.18%	50	4/5/2017
90	LEWISTON	78	69	1	70	89.74%	8	3/8/2017
190	ST CHARLES	142	143	1	144	101.41%	-2	3/29/2017
WINONA COUNTY TOTALS		859	799	4	803	93.48%	56	4/26/2017
50	WABASHA	282	237	1	238	84.40%	44	4/19/2017
110	LAKE CITY	153	139	4	143	93.46%	10	3/29/2017
179	PLAINVIEW	205	191	1	192	93.66%	13	4/26/2017
546	KELLOGG	72	71	0	71	98.61%	1	3/22/2017
573	ELGIN	40	36	1	37	92.50%	3	2/15/2017
579	MILLVILLE	136	166	1	167	122.79%	-31	2/22/2017
588	MAZEPPA	78	75	1	76	97.44%	2	3/29/2017
WABASHA COUNTY TOTALS		966	915	9	924	95.65%	42	4/26/2017
92	ROCHESTER	1009	951	1	952	94.35%	57	4/19/2017
119	BYRON	158	137	0	137	86.71%	21	3/22/2017
164	STEWARTVILLE	312	296	2	298	95.51%	14	4/26/2017
446	ROCHESTER	16	13	5	18	112.50%	-2	11/23/2016
551	EYOTA	182	181	1	182	100.00%	0	3/29/2017
OLMSTEAD COUNTY TOTALS		1677	1578	9	1587	94.63%	90	4/26/2017
AREA ONE TOTALS		3502	3292	22	3314	94.63%	188	4/26/2017
295	WEST CONCORD	70	53	1	54	77.14%	16	3/29/2017
330	HAYFIELD	241	222	13	235	97.51%	6	4/19/2017
333	KASSON	277	260	3	263	94.95%	14	3/29/2017
384	DODGE CENTER	86	84	1	85	98.84%	1	4/12/2017
422	CLAREMONT	38	32	3	35	92.11%	3	2/9/2017
DODGE COUNTY TOTALS		712	651	21	672	94.38%	40	4/26/2017
52	BLOOMING PRAIRIE	111	108	1	109	98.20%	2	4/5/2017
77	OWATONNA	577	537	1	538	93.24%	39	4/5/2017
296	ELLENDALE	34	23	8	31	91.18%	3	4/26/2017
STEELE COUNTY TOTALS		722	668	10	678	93.91%	44	4/26/2017
75	NEW RICHLAND	64	57	1	58	90.63%	6	4/5/2017
228	WASECA	353	335	2	337	95.47%	16	4/26/2017
281	JANESVILLE	105	100	1	101	96.19%	4	3/8/2017
587	WALDORF	29	18	4	22	75.86%	7	11/23/2016
WASECA COUNTY TOTALS		551	510	8	518	94.01%	33	4/26/2017
AREA TWO TOTALS		1985	1829	39	1868	94.11%	117	4/26/2017
40	LANESBORO	105	105	2	107	101.90%	-2	4/5/2017
68	SPRING VALLEY	84	82	1	83	98.81%	1	4/19/2017
81	HARMONY	33	31	1	32	96.97%	1	1/4/2017
94	RUSHFORD	133	130	4	134	100.75%	-1	3/29/2017
166	PRESTON	77	73	2	75	97.40%	2	4/19/2017
197	CHATFIELD	52	46	3	49	94.23%	3	2/15/2017
299	MABEL	193	174	3	177	91.71%	16	4/12/2017

369	WYKOFF	21	2	17	19	90.48%	2	12/7/2016
400	CANTON	17	2	10	12	70.59%	5	1/4/2017
492	FOUNTAIN	18	12	3	15	83.33%	3	1/4/2017
526	PETERSON	36	38	1	39	108.33%	-3	3/29/2017
544	OSTRANDER	28	26	2	28	100.00%	0	1/4/2017
637	WHALEN	17	13	2	15	88.24%	2	11/23/2016
FILLMORE COUNTY TOTALS		814	734	51	785	96.44%	29	4/26/2017
191	CALEDONIA	174	166	1	167	95.98%	7	4/12/2017
249	SPRING GROVE	166	160	1	161	96.99%	5	4/5/2017
423	HOUSTON	115	109	1	110	95.65%	5	3/8/2017
498	HOKAH	22	19	1	20	90.91%	2	3/22/2017
595	LA CRESCENT	346	309	6	315	91.04%	31	3/29/2017
HOUSTON COUNTY TOTALS		823	763	10	773	93.92%	50	4/26/2017
AREA THREE TOTALS		1637	1497	61	1558	95.17%	79	4/26/2017
56	ALBERT LEA	741	665	4	669	90.28%	72	4/19/2017
264	GLENVILLE	88	81	1	82	93.18%	6	3/29/2017
266	HARTLAND	19	14	1	15	78.95%	4	9/14/2016
317	EMMONS	76	70	1	71	93.42%	5	2/9/2017
404	ALDEN	108	105	7	112	103.70%	-4	4/12/2017
552	FREEBORN	40	34	4	38	95.00%	2	2/9/2017
FREEBORN COUNTY TOTALS		1072	969	18	987	92.07%	85	4/26/2017
91	AUSTIN	678	601	1	602	88.79%	76	4/26/2017
105	LYLE	92	87	2	89	96.74%	3	3/8/2017
140	GRAND MEADOW	50	48	1	49	98.00%	1	1/4/2017
146	ADAMS	217	216	2	218	100.46%	-1	3/22/2017
161	LEROY	74	63	2	65	87.84%	9	3/29/2017
570	AUSTIN SPAM	6	3	-1	2	33.33%	4	3/22/2017
MOWER COUNTY TOTALS		1117	1018	7	1025	91.76%	92	4/26/2017
AREA FOUR TOTALS		2189	1987	25	2012	91.91%	177	4/26/2017
1111	DAKOTA	67	0	0	0	0.00%	32	7/23/2016
DISTRICT ONE TOTALS		9380	8605	147	8752	93.30%	628	4/26/2017

6th place in department

AREA VICE COMMANDERS								
AREA ONE		3502	3292	22	3314	94.63%	188	4/26/2017
AREA TWO		1985	1829	39	1868	94.11%	117	4/26/2017
AREA THREE		1637	1497	61	1558	95.17%	79	4/26/2017
AREA FOUR		2189	1987	25	2012	91.91%	177	4/26/2017

FROM AREA ONE

Fellow Legion Members,
Could not pass this one up..

I just sit at the bar on my soft stool, and shoot off my mouth like a darned old fool.

I say what I like and sure criticize, and half of what I say is nothing but lies.

I can tell you what's wrong with this post of ours, and go on complaining for hours and hours.

What? Go to a meeting.....Are you out of your mind?

Of course I can't be there; I don't have the time.....

On a very large sign behind the bar at Post 109 in Corona, AZ.

Says a lot doesn't it, Bartender says when they start getting loud she just points to the sign and it gets quite again. Maybe every post needs a sign like it. That's my lecture for this month.....See everyone at Dist. Convention. Get all your reports in and any changes to your officers list, the sooner the better.....

Dist. 1 Area 1 Vice Commander Gary Miller

FROM AREA TWO

Here we are in the month of May already... Where has the time gone?

I want to take a moment to wish all a happy Mother's Day!

A big congratulation goes out to Commander Sy on his recent testimonial. I thank you for the great time that the wife and I had.

Just a little reminder that we have our 1st District Convention coming up on May 20th, It will be held in Albert Lea. Hope to see a lot of you there.

With the end of May, of, course, comes Memorial Day. Please be sure to attend one of many programs in our area.

As always, please remember those that our serving our great country, both home and abroad.

Area Two Vice Commander Myron Ehrich

FROM AREA THREE

Greetings from Area Three:

We were all looking for an early spring, but in true Minnesota fashion, we were fooled. We can hope that spring will soon arrive for keeps.

We have an important issue facing the First District American Legion. That is that the amount of money paid in for membership will be \$35.75. Some of the Posts have not raised their dues to cover the cost of membership. I would like to remind Posts that they need to inform the State of their decision on what their dues will be for the year.

I know that we have lost members due to the increase in dues. I think that if the Commanders approach members one on one, they can be encouraged to renew their membership. We are losing members in the American Legion and if we don't work hard to retain our members, we will be in trouble.

Please take time every day to remember the men and women in uniform who are serving to protect our freedoms.

Area Three Vice Commander

Carroll Hill

FROM AREA FOUR

We are still lagging behind in membership so lets get with the program and contact those members who have not renewed yet. Also keep your eyes open for individuals wearing branch of service hats or vehicles with service stickers on the windows and remember to ask them if they belong to the American Legion. If they do, thank them for their membership and if they don't play salesman and talk to them about the American Legion and our programs.

On another note Memorial Day is coming up so please plan on attending a Memorial Day program near you. It is very important not to forget those who have fallen for our freedom.

Remember to get those CPR's filled out and submitted and as always keep our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers. Area Four Vice Commander—Wayne Hammon Jr

FROM YOUR PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

May 2017

Continue developing your PR strategies. Jealousy, guard the reputation of the American Legion in the print news. Perceptions are easily made, and difficult to change. If your post is receiving press more than once for something negative, you might want to take action to redress this. At this time of the year it's time to get ready for the Convention season and elections along with the CPR- the consolidated post report form. It is a snapshot that details all the post activities since last year. Plan for Memorial Day and presentations at graduations.

Continue registering posts for the Centennial, along with sending in memorial photos and narratives. The post history contest is on and we hopefully will have a record number of entries at the Department Convention in July. Additional information will be disseminated next month. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as the PR committee chair for the past few years.

Ralph Schneekloth
District PR chair

CHAPLAIN'S WORDS OF WISDOM

Greetings, First District

Welcome to Spring. For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. Now think about those previous words, you know we say them before every meeting and just this first bit is really heady, what a charge we have received; to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

October 11, 1798, President John Adams stated in his address to the military: We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other. America's God and Country, William J. Federer 2013.

Peter Marshall- Chaplain of the United States Senate, January 13, 1947. The choice before us is plain: Christ or chaos, conviction or compromise, discipline or disintegration. I am rather tired of hearing about our rights and privileges as American citizens. The time is come -it is now- when we ought to hear about the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. America's future depends upon her accepting and demonstrating God's government. America's God and Country, William J. Federer 2013.

The God and Country program talks about public worship, prayers and aspects of good citizenship. It has been a distinct privilege to have been able to serve as the First District Chaplain for the past three years. Thank you for the opportunity.

Ralph Schneekloth
MN First District Chaplain

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! IMPORTANT !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

If anybody knows of a Gold Star Family in the First District please let Adjutant Hammon or Les Shaunce in Albert Lea know so an invitation can be sent to them to attend the First District Convention Memorial Service at 11:00 am on Saturday May 20, 2017 in Albert Lea.

This memorial service is the jewel of our convention and we would love to have the Gold Star Family members present if possible.

Please share this with everyone so no one gets left out.

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.



Members present at Sy's testimonial supper



Nancy Lewison, Commander Fix & Dennis Lewison at the
Commander's testimonial supper

FROM YOUR ADJUTANT

I know you have been reminded about the reports that need to be submitted into Department but I am going to do it again as it is that important. Your Consolidated Post Report or CPR needs to be filled out and sent in. We want 100 percent participation from our district. We made it last year but I had to make calls and fill out about seventeen of the reports myself. I should not have to do that, it is the post adjutant's job so adjutants let's get with the program and fill them out. National uses the information from that form to publish flyers and also uses the information when it goes in front of congress to fight for our veteran rights and programs.

First District Adjutant—Wayne Hammon Jr

Enlisted Person of the year applications

I am asking all Members of the First District to seek our Members of your Post or Community who are National Guardsmen or Reservists from any branch who could be Candidates for Enlisted Person of the year. Each of our Communities have Guardsmen and Reservists currently serving who deserve recognition for their extra effort and involvement beyond their service duties. Please contact me with their information so we can get an application started. Thanks for your help.

Jim Kellogg
First District Chairman

2017 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, Sy Fix, do hereby call a convention of the First District to convene at Albert Lea, Minnesota, Saturday May 20, 2017.

The business sessions of the convention will be held at Albert Lea Post 56, 142 North Broadway St, Albert Lea, MN, commencing at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 20th 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
Sy Fix

Delegate Certification to the First District Convention in Albert Lea, Minnesota, May 18, 2017, please send to the District Adjutant as soon as possible.

POST _____ MN

DELEGATES

ALTERNATES

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. _____

4. _____

4. _____

5. _____

5. _____

6. _____

6. _____

7. _____

7. _____

8. _____

8. _____

SIGNED _____

ADJUTANT, POST # _____

CONVENTION HOUSING INFORMATION

There are thirty (30) rooms blocked at the Best Western Plus in Albert Lea. This hotel is located right off I90 by the Harley Davison Shop.

The Address is: The Best Western Plus
821 East Plaza St
Albert Lea, MN
Phone 507-373-4000

The rooms are locked in at \$79.95 per night. Reservations must be made by April 19, 2017 to get that rate.

Any reservations made after the 19th will be at the rate of \$139 per night.

There are no “on line bookings” at the hotel so you must call the hotel for registrations.

When calling tell them that you are with the First District American Legion Convention.

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REQUEST FOR DELGAGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

OFFICER ENDORSEMENTS

- 1. Ralph Schneekloth
- 2. Roland Hanson
- 3. Bill Goede
- 4. Chuck Kruger
- 5. Richard Skillestad
- 6. Jim Kellogg
- 7. Myron Ehrich
- 8. Chuck Stone
- 9. Dale Welick
- 10. Les Shaunce
- 11. Sy Fix
- 12. Richard Gosse

- 1. Les Shaunce for Commander
- 2. Scott Ihrke for Area One Vice Commander
- 3. Gary Weaver for Chaplain
- 4. Myron Ehrich— Area Two Vice Commander
- 5. Bill Goede for Finance Officer
- 6. Carroll Hill—Area Three Vice Commander

First District 2017 Convention Pre- Registration
May 20, 2017 Albert Lea, MN

The First District Convention will be held at American Legion Post 56 in Albert Lea, MN.
 Please fill out this form out by May 5, 2017 and return it to:

Leo Carney Post 56
 142 North Broadway St
 Albert Lea, MN 56007
 Attention : Convention Committee

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

	Pre - registration	\$10.00
	Registration at the door	\$12.00
	Saturday noon lunch	\$ 8.00 (Pulled pork sandwich & salad)
Total		\$ _____

Please make the checks out to Leo Carney Post 56 and send to the address above.

Name _____ Phone _____/_____/_____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Circle one - Delegate Alternate Guest

Please place an "X" by your organization and put in the number

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

You **must** register as either a delegate, alternate or as a guest to attend the convention. (if Legion Riders that are not registered plan on attending the Rider meeting they must register under one of the organizations above)

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

IMPORTANT – being as we are having a one day convention it is imperative that we have pre-registration so we can get a better number of those attending for the post. So **PLEASE PRE-REGISTER.**



American Legion Post 91 has presented its annual "Americanism Awards."

Boys State awards were won by Austin High School junior Michael Vuong and Pacelli High School junior Patrick Murphy. AHS juniors Kellie Baier and Sydney Marsh and Sonia Ramirez from Pacelli received the Girls State Awards.

The Americanism Awards, the highest honor given to young people by the American Legion, went to Bryant Borland and Natalie Perry of Austin High School and Jacob Paul and Neftali Lopez of Pacelli.

Boys and Girls State winners are chosen for academic achievement, leadership and good character and will attend week-long programs in June with other winners from around Minnesota. The Americanism Awards recognize courage, honor, patriotism, scholarship and service.

A NOTE FROM PAST DISTRICT COMMANDER ARNIE TROE

All post Adjutants - Remember to send your Children & Youth reports to me as soon as possible so I can get the department report done.

Second I want to remind all of the posts to get their post data forms returned to the department office before May 11th. This is very important because the information on that form is what National uses to put on the renewal notices that are sent out.

Also remember to get your consolidated post report or CRP filled out and sent in. Commander Milton's commitment is to have 100% of the posts in Minnesota submit their reports. So make the First District proud and get 100% of our CPR 's done.

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION TRAINING REGISTRATION

Advance registration is important in providing attendance numbers allowing us to have ample supplies on hand for this instruction. It also governs the number of meals needed to be arranged.

CLASSROOM

American Legion Post 255
708 Front St.
Brainerd, MN 56401

Phone: (218) 829-2249

REGISTRATION / HOSPITALITY

Legionville
9544 Legionville Road
Brainerd, MN 56401

(218) 829-3094

MAIL / E-MAIL REGISTRATION

Jeff Gay
MN Legion Training Committee
145 3rd Avenue
Jackson, MN 56143

(507) 933-4576 - jlymang@gmail.com

Training dates are June 23-25. Training and registration begins Friday evening of the 23rd (including a social and networking), all day the 24th and through noon on the 25th (District Membership Packets will be distributed too.)

Registration begins at 5PM Friday at Legionville, Brainerd, MN

FREE Dorm Lodging is available at Legionville (Legionville lodging is an open bay style w/communal showers) or at the Legionville Campground. Lodging is also available in Brainerd, MN, rates may vary, cost is your responsibility/

**COMPLETE THE FORM FULLY SO WE ARE ABLE TO CONTACT YOU AS NEEDED
PLEASE PRINT (NO CURSIVE) CLEAR AND LEGIBLY**

POST # _____ POST LOCATION _____

NAME _____ POST POSITION _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____ CELLULAR _____
E-MAIL _____
SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS? _____

NAME _____ POST POSITION _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____ CELLULAR _____
E-MAIL _____
SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS? _____

NAME _____ POST POSITION _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____ CELLULAR _____
E-MAIL _____
SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS? _____

NOTES:

- We ask that you come minimally prepared with the following: Pad of paper, pen/pencil, highlighter. If you wish you may bring a computer to take your notes on.
 - If available, please bring your latest **Post Officers Guide and Manual of Ceremonies**
- The hospitality area will have seating, snacks and a cash bar
- A short welcome and briefing will take place in the hospitality area Friday evening to include training expectations, agenda, meal information and incidentals as needed.
- Training will begin 8AM sharp Saturday morning at Legion Post 255 in Brainerd!

This is the form that is to be used for individuals who want to attend the Training session

The form on the previous page is to be used when a post wants to send several members to the training session.

MN LEGION Training Registration

Mail to:

**MN American Legion Training
c/o Jeff Gay
145 3rd Avenue
Jackson, MN 56143**

Dates: 23 – 25 June 2016

One Registration form per each person attending is required. Please copy as many forms as you need and send a separate form for each person, multiple forms may be mailed together.

If you wish, you may scan and e-mail the registrations to jlymang@gmail.com - I will follow up with a confirmation e-mail showing receipt.

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL BLOCKS OF THIS FORM AND PRINT LEGIBLY – NO CURSIVE

DISTRICT	POST	POST LOCATION/CITY
FULL NAME		
MAILING ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
E-MAIL		
CELLULAR OR OTHER PHONE		
SPECIAL NEEDS OR CONSIDERATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Please Check PLEASE EXPLAIN:		

(Local reproduction of this form is authorized)

FIRST DISTRICT AUXILIARY NEWS



Auxiliary Contacts

President

Cindy Nelson
91 14th St N
Northwood, IA 50459
H— 507-323-0082
C— 507-383-3456
tindylou@hotmail.com

Secretary

Sandy Fredrickson
771 2nd St SW
Glenville, MN 56036
H—507-448-3438
C—507-383-3776
dsfredrick@gmail.com

Membership / First Vice

Cheryl Nyman
130 1st St SW
Plainview, MN 55964
507-202-0115

Treasurer

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

Happy May Day!!!! Thanks to all of you for your hard work this year! We need all units to get their membership in. We are still in 3rd place. Don't forget District Convention in Albert Lea on May 20th. Hope to see many units there as it is close to all of us. We will have ex board on May 19th at the legion. Hope many of you will bring your unit flags. Remember chairmen, you need to give a 2 min. report on what your unit has done this year, also you will give out your trophy and awards. See standing rules!!! All units make sure you bring the trophy to convention. Don't forget!!!!!! Sorry ex board is at 11am on Friday. I need a short report on your program from each chairman to put in our book of annual report. Please send them to Sandy Fredrickson this week. Thanks!!! Please remember to donate to our District Project!!! Department President Carol will be with us. See you all in Albert Lea!!!! President Cindy

Note from Poppy Chm, Barb Oakland

First District Convention will be held in Albert Lea on Saturday, May 20th.

The District 1 Poppy Contest will be "a Spring Bouquet or a Table Centerpiece".

The Table centerpiece entries can be taken to Dept. convention for the Dept. contest.

Rules: Must have Poppies in the bouquet (with in memorian papers removed) Must have Dept. President, Carol Kottom's theme "Thank a Veteran-Some gave all, all gave some"

Let's see if every unit can have an entry this year! Entries should be at the Poppy Table by 9 AM

Any Questions call Barb Oakland at [507-567-2373](tel:507-567-2373).

Call to Convention

The annual First District Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota is hereby called. It is to be held in Albert Lea, Minnesota on **Saturday May 20, 2017**. Auxiliary sessions will be held in the Marion Ross Theater, 147 North Broadway, Albert Lea, MN

Opening session will be called on May 20, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

The purpose of the Convention is to:

1. Elect District Officers for the 2017-2018 year.
2. Receive reports of Unit Presidents.
3. Receive reports of District Chairmen.
4. Elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention (Reno, Nevada).
5. 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 available 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 30, 2017**. If possible, reports should be typewritten and ready to print.

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

UNIT COLOR BEARERS

Units are encouraged to bring their flags to the Convention to be presented as part of the opening ceremonies, posted during the Auxiliary sessions and retired at the close of the Convention. Auxiliary members who are carrying their flags at the District Convention are asked to meet at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday May 20, 2017 to rehearse.

PAGES AND COLOR BEARERS

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

UNIT PRESIDENTS

ALL Unit Presidents are asked to take part in the **Opening Ceremonies** at the District Convention regardless of whether or not their Unit Colors will be present. Please be there by 7:30 A.M. to rehearse.

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

Hear ye---Hear ye---Hear ye---

The American Legion Auxiliary will celebrate 100years in 2020!

Won't you be a part of it?

We have published articles in many places! Everywhere, but the local newspaper.

We continue to hear our members say--- no one knows anything about our Strategic Plan Committee. No one knows anything about our 100th Anniversary Cookbook—Shame on your unit President for not passing it on!!

We have requested, encouraged, tried to motivate MEMBERS to become involved!

What should we do?

What do you want the organization to do?

Is it in your own local Unit where the changes need to happen?? Is it in the District or Department? Is it within your own Post--do you work together??

Remember--It is you---you the member, active or not active---involved or not ---doesn't matter where or what status/rank you have--**there is no rank, we are all "members"--it is you that make a difference!!**

We are one---one organization---the largest women's patriotic organization in the nation!!!

I am asking every Freeborn County Auxiliary Member—UNITS in: -Emmons, Freeborn, Albert Lea, Glenville, New Richland (another county), Ellendale, Geneva, and Hartland

Mower County Auxiliary Members---Lyle, LeRoy, Austin, Blooming Prairie, Grand Meadow, Adams to participate in the 100th Anniversary Cookbook (a department Strategic Plan Fundraiser).

It is very simple---write it out by hand and mail to me at 771 2nd St SW, Glenville, MN 56036 or save the postage and go to the department website and type your recipes in.

Ladies—we can do this—we can make change in our organization! We need each and every one of you to join in and help us be successful just as the previous 100 years have been. It is up to us to make a difference! It is up to us to re-energize the good of what we do, why we do it and be proud of whom our organization is—

Won't you please consider being a part of it—Won't you "Reach out and make a difference"? Maybe this will be the spark to start something new! Maybe this will be the start of reenergizing your unit! As I said, this is every member's organization.

Every member of the ALA is appreciated! And NEEDED!

Anxiously awaiting your recipe!

Chairman and committee for Strategic Planning

Department of MN, American Legion Auxiliary

Sandy Fredrickson, 771 2nd St SW, Glenville, MN 56036

COOKBOOKS **RECIPE COLLECTION SHEET**

For office use only Recipe No.

Category _____

Recipe Title _____

Submitted By _____ *Unit #:* _____ *Town:* _____

INGREDIENTS: Use abbreviations pt. qt. pkg. etc. c. ct. tsp. T. oz. lb. gal. doz. sm. med. lg.

DIRECTIONS: _____

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INSTRUCTIONS

- Print **NEATLY IN INK, NOT PENCIL**, and place only **ONE RECIPE** per form.
- If more room is needed, use another sheet of the same size and staple together.
- Please **WRITE LEGIBLY**, as this will greatly reduce errors.
- List all ingredients in order of use in ingredients list and directions.
- Include amounts, sizes, e.g., 2 (8-oz. cans.), temps, and baking/cooking times.
- Keep ingredients separate and directions in one paragraph. Do not submit recipes in steps, columns, or charts. Recipes which cannot conform to our chosen recipe format will be omitted.
- Use names of ingredients in the directions, e.g., "Combine flour and sugar." **DO NOT** use statements like, "Combine first three ingredients."
- Include temperatures and cooking, chilling, baking, and/or freezing times.
- Be consistent with the spelling of your name for each recipe you contribute.
- Any special recipe notes (anything other than ingredients, directions, contributor name, serving size, or recipe title) should be kept as a separate comment on the bottom of this form, as they may not be included unless we pay extra for it.
- Your recipes should fit into one of the following categories:

Appetizers & Beverages	Breads & Rolls
Soups & Salads	Desserts
Vegetables & Side Dishes	Cookies & Candy
Main Dishes	This & That

Dear Friend,

Our organization is preparing a wonderful custom cookbook featuring favorite recipes from our members. The cookbook will be professionally published, and it is certain to become a treasured keepsake.

Please submit 3–5 of your favorite recipes so you can be represented in our group's cookbook. Follow the instructions above. Your name will be printed with each of your recipes. Thank you for contributing recipes as this will help to ensure that our cookbook will be a huge success.

We anticipate a great demand for our cookbooks, and we want to be certain to order plenty. You can reserve one or more for yourself and your family at this time to be assured of receiving them.

Please reserve _____ cookbook(s) for me.

Name _____

Cost of book depends on # of recipes submitted.

Please submit your recipes to the committee **OR** online so we can meet our deadline. Thank you!

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



COMMANDER

Ron Wolff

1213 Clear Lake Drive

Waseca, MN 55903

507-456-3817

ronwolff5@gmail.com

ADJUTANT

Gary Weaver

29 North Elm St

LaCrescent, MN 55947

507-450-9580

gweaver@acegroup.cc

EAST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Tim Weaver

1303 Kane St

La Crosse, WI 54603

608-304-6532

timweaver595@gmail.com

WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

MEMBERSHIP

Glenn Mueller

548 E 10th St

St Charles, MN 55972

507-316-3977

glm01311962@gmail.com

From Your Sal Commander

Greetings everyone,

On May 13th the 1st district SAL will hold their District Convention at the Albert Lea American Legion.

The Exec Board will meet at 9:00 with regular session to follow. Lunch will be off the regular menu.

Remember dual members if you pay registration at the SAL convention all you have to pay the next weekend is your lunch ticket.

I am really looking forward to a good turnout.

It has been a tough year for the 1st District as far as membership goes but I am asking everyone to make one last push to get some of those late renewals in.

I hope to see everyone at Convention

Ron Wolff

District SAL Commander

IMPORTANT LEGIONVILLE DATES

Dates to put in calendars.

CAMP-O-REE - September 7, 8, 9, 10, 2017

LEGION RIDERS ROMP - September 14, 15, 16, 17, 2017

SAL DEER HUNT - September 28, 29, 30, 2017

Thanks – Wayne Gilbertson

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.

April 12, 2017 Membership Report

Department of Minnesota
Membership Bulletin No. 8



National Goal
Department Goal 11,768
Current Membership 10,662

District	2017 Goal	Total 2016	Total 2017	Months Gain	Total Squads	% Of Goal	
District 1	2,017	2,027	1,745	161	41	86.51%	1,749
District 2	1,302	1,269	1,230	33	33	94.47%	1,211
District 3	1,997	1,964	1,800	187	36	90.14%	1,844
District 4	360	354	337	16	6	93.61%	335
District 5	373	368	396	22	6	106.17%	332
District 6	1,466	1,449	1,344	71	32	91.68%	1,337
District 7	1,030	1,021	917	74	21	89.03%	969
District 8	604	594	527	30	17	87.25%	542
District 9	812	795	749	42	18	92.24%	719
District 10	1,798	1,778	1,610	108	34	89.54%	1,651
District 11	9	7	7	0	2	77.78%	4
Totals	11,768	11,626	10,662	744	246	90.60%	10,693

Same Date
Last Year

June 23 – 25, 2017
SAL CAMPOUT/CONVENTION
Legionville—Brainerd, MN



Watch for the April mailing to all Squads. Included in the mailing will be the information needed for the Detachment Convention in June. Also enclosed will be the annual reporting forms which must be either returned to Doug Bible or brought to the June Campout.

The office will be closed Friday, April 14th. Have a happy Easter!!

2017 National Target Dates

100%

May 10th

2017 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, Ron Wolff, First District Commander, do here by call a Convention of the First District Sons of The American Legion to convene at American Legion Post 56 located at 142 N. Broadway in Albert Lea, MN on Saturday May 13th, 2017 at 9 am. As per last year’s convention this year we are meeting 1 week before the Legion and Auxiliary.

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

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

Please send certification of your Squadron Delegates and Alternates to:

1st District SAL Adjutant
Gary Weaver
29 N. Elm St.
La Crescent, MN 55947
gweaver@acegroup.cc

All District SAL members are urged to attend.

Ron Wolff
1st District SAL Commander

SAL Delegate certification to the First District Convention in Albert Lea, MN on Saturday May 13th, 2107

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

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

RIDERS CONTACT INFORMATION



DIRECTOR

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

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Brett Naylor
118 Columbus Ave
Waltham, MN 55982
507/438/2497

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

Nancy Lewison
68127 150th St
Adams, MN
507/440/2090

CHAPLAIN

Zack Naylor
1817 E Oakland Ave
Austin, MN
507/438/6933

ROAD CAPTAIN

Lee Dority
56235 220th St
Austin, MN
641/210/9035

First District ALR

Congratulations to Glenville American Legion Riders. They are the newest chapter to the organization. We wish them success and look forward to working together.

Here is a list of First District American Legion Rider events:

Winona American Legion Riders will be hosting an event on Saturday, May 6th, 2017 for the 4th Annual Winona ALR/Vendor Motorcycle event. There is a flyer attached for more details.

Rochester American Legion Riders will be doing a PTSD ride on Saturday, June 24th, 2017. There is a flyer attached for more details.

Austin American Legion Riders will be having a barbeque rib kickoff on May 6th, 2017. The cost is \$75 to participate in the contest.

Rushford American Legion Riders will be hosting the 6th Annual Thunder on June 3rd, 2017 in the Valley Run to raise money for the Legacy Scholarship Fund, Freedom Honor Flight and local Veteran causes.

Austin chapter has started a traveling trophy which is going department wide.

When the trophy is stolen from the post the names of the people on the back of the trophy have to be contacted so they know where the trophy is located.

The cost to steal the trophy is \$10 and will be donated back to the chapter that has stolen the trophy the most throughout the event. The amount given to the chapter that wins has to be donated back to a charitable event of their choice.

The post has to display the trophy for 5 days. After 5 days the trophy can be stolen. In order to steal the trophy there has to be three ALR members on motorcycles and in uniform. The members cannot be on a rider's event.

The event last from March 1 to October 31, 2017.

There is a Facebook page monitoring the trophy.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 20th during the First District American Legion Family convention. We will meet at 1 p.m. at the Albert Lea American Legion and the location will be in the basement. Election of officers will be held during the meeting.

Our "Tour of the First District" Legacy Ride is scheduled for July 8th-9th, 2017. Committee members are Chairman, Roe Naylor, Lee Dority, Nancy Lewison, Karla Miller, Joe Smiley & Duane Thomas. Planning has begun and Posts are being contacted for stops.

Dennis Lewison, First District ALR Director

Tonia Bettermann, First District ALR Secretary



SAL Commander Ron Wolff with his Grandkids at the Post 595 Legion Birthday supper



SGT at Arms Jerry Nelson presenting a gift to Commander Sy at his testimonial supper.



Our Department Leadership Team



Department Legion Rider Director Chuck Stone doing his thing

2017 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 Dennis Lewison, First District ALR Director, do hereby call a convention meeting of the First District ALR to be held at the Albert Lea American Legion at 1 PM, on Saturday, May 20th, 2017 in conjunction with the First District American Legion Family convention.

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

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

Dennis A Lewison

4th Annual Winona ALR Vendor / Motorcycle Event



Saturday May 6th, 2017

American Legion – 302 E Sarnia, Winona, MN

Craft / Direct Sale Vendors 10am – 4pm

Both INSIDE and OUTSIDE the Legion

Swap Vendors welcome!!

Call Shannon for vendor info & contract: 507/313-1183

NEW!!! The Shifters
Playing Noon – 4pm



Lunch available for purchase
Bar open for all beverages



Bean Bag tournament
@ Noon

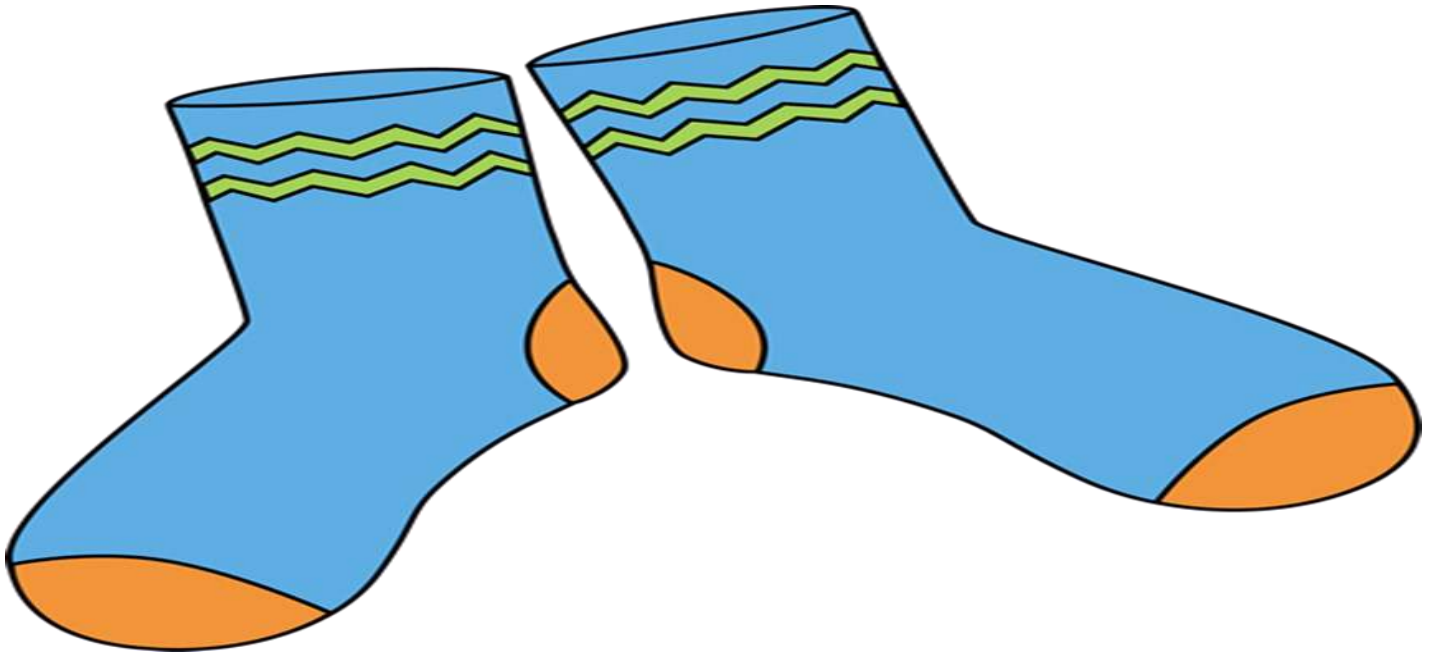
ALL Pubic welcome!
Family friendly event

Check out our event on Facebook for further updates.



**Still Serving...
And Riding!**

American Legion Riders



SOCKS FOR VETERANS

Collection Hampers for NEW SOCKS for veterans at the Hastings Minnesota Veterans home, located at American Legion Post 295, Farmers State Bank and Casey's in West Concord, MN

New Socks will be collected from now to Memorial Day, Monday May 29th.

If donating money please send it to: American Legion Post 295, 133 East Main St, West Concord, MN 55985

Please consider donating to this Veterans Project.

THANK YOU !

(A project of the West Concord American Legion Post and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 295)

Sons of the American Legion

Please join us for our

4th Annual

SPRING FLING ROAST PORK SANDWICH FEED

Saturday, May 13th, 2017

From 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Bloomington Prairie Servicemen's Club

210 4th St NE

Just off US Hwy 218

Menu: Roast Pork Sandwiches, Cole Slaw,
Pork & Beans, Chips, Dessert, Milk & Coffee

EVERYONE WELCOME!!!

COST IS A FREE WILL DONATION TO THE SONS OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON #52

Great door prizes – Silent Auction –
Special Presentation by Stix of Fury
Drumline & Color Guard!!