

Falk was assigned to be in charge of number 44 gun on the starboard side, one of the twin 40mm guns.

"The guy in charge of the gun next to me was named Ocho. When we pulled into San Diego, he went ashore and never came back. I heard later that he got murdered. So they put me in charge of his gun too."

For each gun there was a pointer, a trainer, and four loaders. Passing the ammunition up from the magazine deep in the ship were more handlers who were all African-American. They worked as cooks and stewards in the partially-segregated Navy.

Falk directed the operation of the gun. He trained another sailor how to do the cleaning of the other 40mm he had been assigned. "Every time we fired the gun, we had to clean it. It wasn't easy, but I didn't mind it. It was my job."

The men who worked the gun came from other jobs on the ship, and only manned the gun during battle stations. By this time, Falk had become a second class gunner's mate and after he had been on Darke for a few months, he was advanced to first class.

He remembers when he was informed that the loaders in the magazine were having trouble removing the shells from their crates. "They were held in by these clips, and the clips didn't always work. I showed them another way to loosen the clips, but they said some of them just didn't work at all. They were right."

"So I picked up the case and just flopped all the ammo on the deck. You should have seen these guys scatter, just like ducks. They thought I was going to blow them up. But I was just trying to show them that the shells weren't armed, and that when we need the ammo we need it right now and they can't be screwing around with those clips. Boy, were they mad at me."

Falk always carried a .45 sidearm with him when he was directing the guns. "It was just a message that no one leaves his position during a battle. We stay put."

The ship went into the Pacific to practice. One of the drills for the gunners was to shoot at a "sleeve" being towed by a plane.

"We had a competition with the other APAs, and each bet five cases of beer that they were the best. On this maneuver we were doing so good that APA-61, our sister ship, just sent us a message 'We quit.'"

"Usually when you go ashore, the Navy would give you three beers and that was it. This time, because we won the bet, we each had an allotment of 22 beers. Who the hell could drink that many? I just had my three and went back to the ship."

In Hawaii, Darke loaded men of the 5th Marine Division on board and headed for Saipan to practice landings.

"We were built to have 1,400 troops on board, and we had 1,609 Marines. I remember for breakfast they gave everybody on board a box of cereal and some manufactured milk. The Marines thought this was standard Navy food, but we had never seen it before. Nobody could eat it, and everyone just threw it away. I know I did. It was the worst stuff ever."

While at Saipan, Falk was told to arm himself and accompany a boat to shore to pick up ammunition. "So, I showed up with my .45, and they said, 'No, we want you to arm yourself.' So I went to the armory to pick up a Thompson sub-machine gun."

The craft was loaded with five-inch shells. "My job was to protect the load."

On Feb. 19, USS Darke arrived at Iwo Jima. "There was a Japanese submarine between us and the beach, but we were told not to fire on it because the Navy was sending a plane to drop ash cans (depth charges) on it. The plane came, but the sub just went under water."

The transport landed the Marines at Iwo Jima. "The destroyers were all zipping up and down the coast firing on the Japanese positions. They put that five-inch ammo back on a boat and told me to get on board. There was no room, so I had them lower me right over the boat to sit on the projectiles. The boat was going up and down, up and down. I tried to time it, but it was quite a drop."

The boat went from destroyer to destroyer passing out the ammunition. "We would pull along the stern and begin passing it up. Everything was moving, so it was very difficult. It was dangerous work and we were under constant fire. If one shell had hit that boat, we would have taken the destroyer with us."

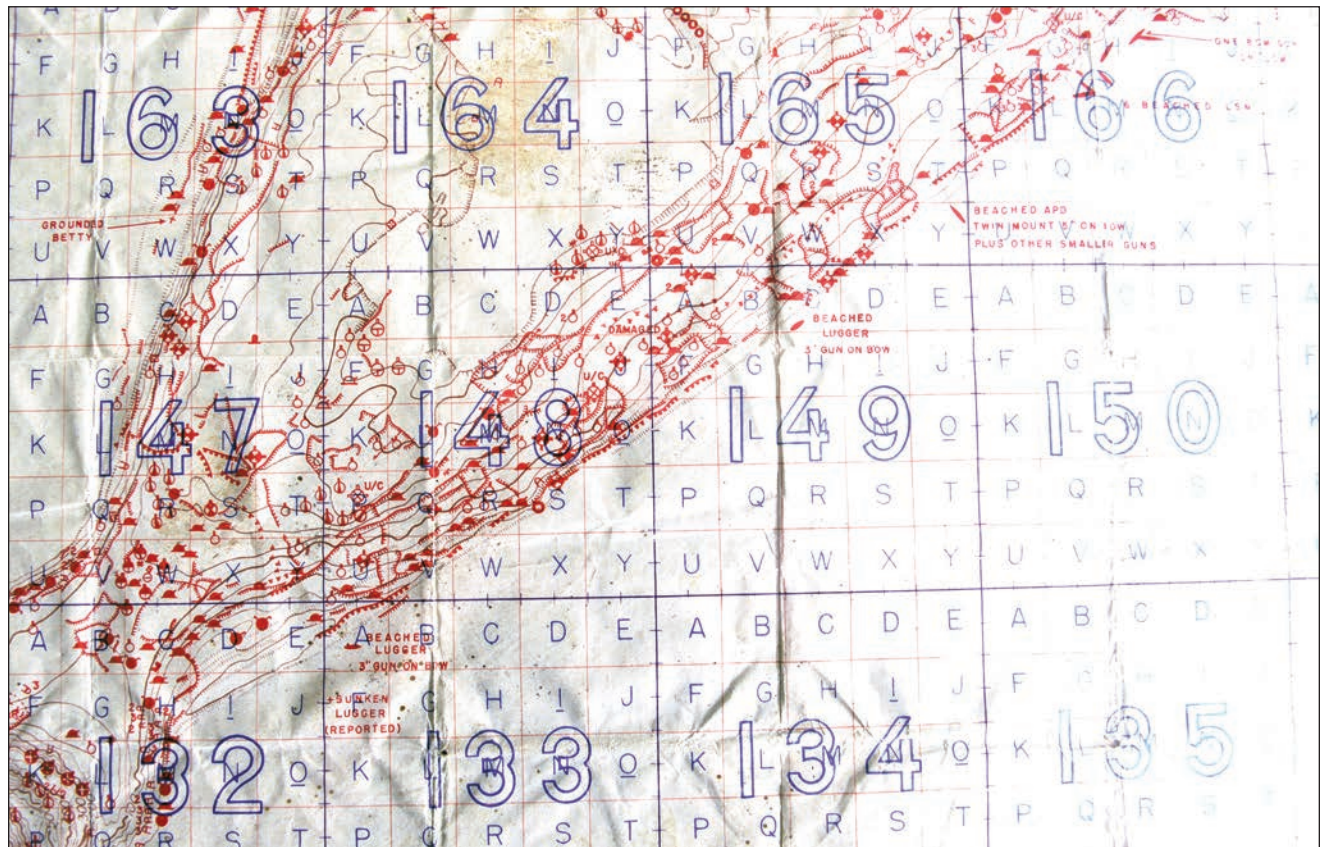
At every ship, a man had to be lowered down to help with the loading. "This one guy tried to step on the side of the boat but he slipped. The boat and the ship came together and this guy had a rivet hole in his leg about this big (Falk indicated a hole about the size of half dollar). We had to put him on a stretcher and hand him back up."

Falk said he was often asked if he saw action in the war. "I'd always just say, 'No, all I did was beach parties.'"

On the third day at Iwo Jima, the Marines raised the first flag on Mt. Suribachi. "Every ship in the fleet sounded its horn. It really blasted."

Darke was sent back to Espiritu Santo to take on Army troops from the 27th Division, and then it was back north to land them at Okinawa. Darke did two "sham" landings to confuse the Japanese, and then finally landed the Army troops on April 9th and for a few days thereafter.

There had only been a few Kamikaze attacks at Iwo Jima, but Okinawa was a different story.



Falk has an authentic U.S. Navy battle map for Iwo Jima in a frame at his house. "They left it in my gunnery locker, so I took it."



A Navy crew on the USS Hornet mans 40 mm guns similar to the ones Falk operated on the USS Darke. There were trainers, pointers and loaders. The man in the headset is probably the gunner's mate.



Falk sent this historic letter home from Tokyo Bay on the day of the Japanese surrender. USS Darke was one of hundreds of ships in the harbor on Sept. 2, 1945.



A crane on the transport ships could put four landing craft in the water in 14 minutes.



Falk visited his parents while on leave. His dad is decked out in his American Legion uniform.

SECRET

**NOT TO BE TAKEN ASHORE ON D-DAY
RESTRICTED IN COMBAT AREA**

5TH MARINE DIVISION
LANDING INFORMATION SHEET

Instructions:

- a. One copy of this sheet will be issued to each individual of this command. Individuals to whom issued will record the data indicated by questions hereon, under immediate supervision of squad and platoon leaders.
- b. Officers in command of troops will be responsible for issue of this sheet and preparation of information for the men under their command.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What equipment (other than individual equipment) am I responsible for taking ashore? 2. Name of officer(s) or NCO(s) under whom my detail will operate? Name of boat team commander? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Do I transfer to another landing craft en route to the beach? If so, what type? 9. What wave am I in? 10. What time does my wave hit the beach?
---	--

Each Marine in the 5th Division on the USS Darke was given this landing information sheet. An officer would help the Marine answer the questions.

"It started at sun up one day. There was just a solid mass of Kamikazes coming across the north part of the island. One by one, they came through the fleet and tried to suicide us."

Falk said he doesn't think his own gun ever stopped a Japanese aircraft, but overall the Navy did a good job. "We hit so many, or made them change their course."

When the afternoon came, the attack was over. "They told us to turn the power off on all our guns because we had fired so much in the morning, we had drained the ship's battery."

The ship's port side was facing Okinawa while the starboard, Falk's side, was facing the sea. "We were all staring out, waiting for another attack. All of sudden I could see one lone Kamikaze coming over the island. I told my crew to turn the power back on."

"The problem was, every gunner on the ship saw the Jap at the same time and they all flipped the power switch at the same time. The ship blew a fuse."

The guns could still be run manually. "You should have heard me holler, 'Switch to manual.'" Darke's guns took aim at the Kamikaze which now was rumbling along about 25 feet over the water directly at the transport.

"Our fire made him change directions and he headed for the APA right next to us. About 10 feet from the other ship, the Kamikaze took a direct hit and just blew up. The explosion was so intense that I never even saw the plane hit the water, but it never hit the other ship."

Darke stayed on station as the Battle of Okinawa raged on.

"We went to the other side of the island and there was a little grassy island there and they put a party of us ashore. It had been blasted from one end to the other. There was nothing left but smithereens. As I was walking over the rubble, I picked up a painted Japanese bottle. It didn't have one scratch on it. Figure that one out. I still have the bottle."

In the two landings that Darke participated in, the ship lost 14 men at Iwo Jima and then 10 more at Okinawa, mainly the crews on the landing craft.

Darke headed to the Philippines and began to do practice landings for troops who were scheduled to be landed in southern Japan.

"One day in August, we were out at sea and I had my headphones on. The voice said that we had dropped a bomb on Japan and the war may be over."

Falk repeated the message for his crew. "They just stared at me. We had dropped a lot of bombs, but now they were saying if we had dropped just one and it was going to end the war? Everybody just laughed. One bomb?"

The bomb, of course, was the first atomic bomb. A few days later, a second bomb was dropped. "And then the war was over."

Darke brought men from the 41st Division to Japan to be occupying troops in Japan, and the ship was in Tokyo Harbor when the surrender was signed.

On its way back to America, Darke picked up a load of troops at several different islands and brought them home. "It was 15 days at sea, and we didn't see anything but the sea. Finally we saw something. It was the Golden Gate bridge. It was so beautiful, you wouldn't believe it."

Falk was discharged from the Navy in January, 1946, after four years of duty. He went right home and began his printing career again. "They paid me 50 cents an hour. But then they said I was pretty good, so they gave me 60 cents an hour."

He was married in 1947 to Doris Anderson, and they had three daughters, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Doris died not long ago.

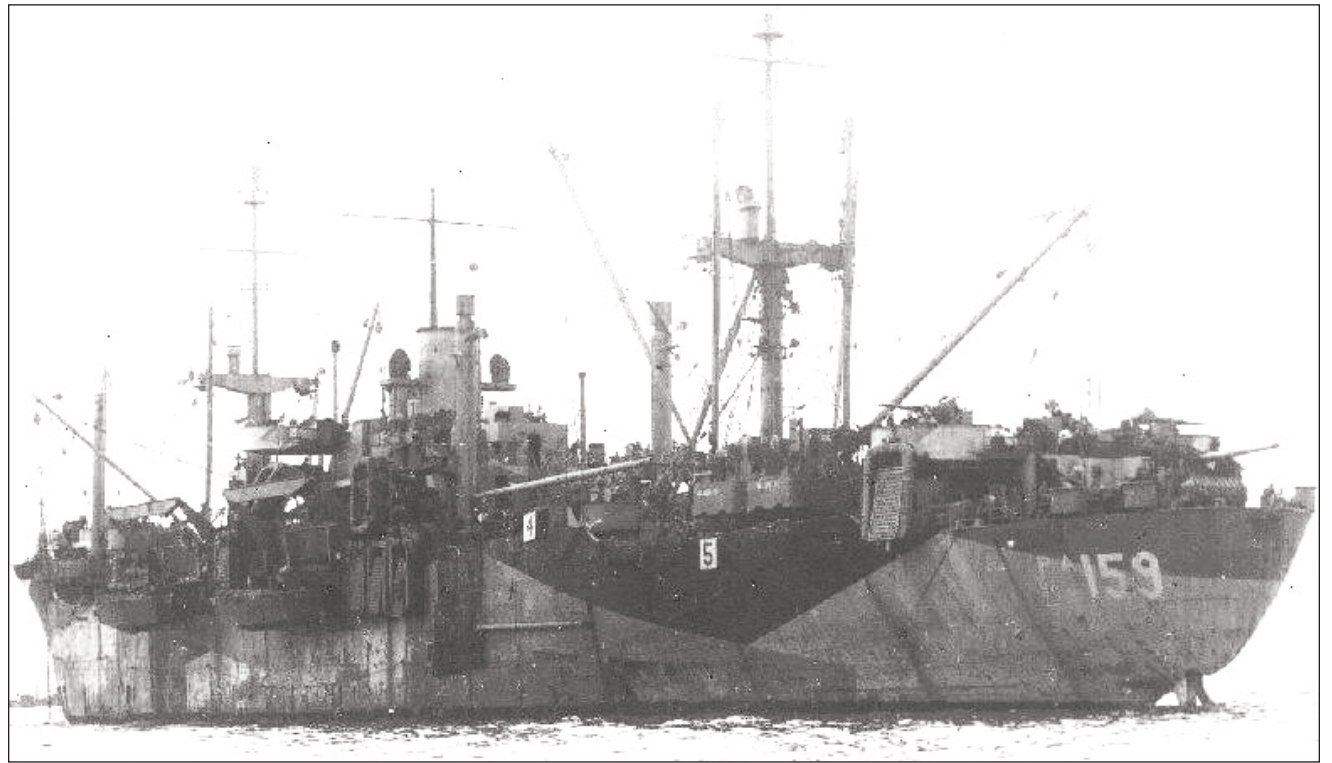
Falk became an avid fisherman, and once caught a 52-inch muskie. "I also caught 73 walleyes in three days once. I threw them all back in."

He lives in an apartment in Maple Grove.

Oh, and he had his congressman try to convince the government to change his official records to reflect his real name. This time, the Navy agreed.



Falk and his friends raise a toast with their milk glasses in a stateside restaurant.



USS Darke (APA-159) was commissioned in 1944 and was active in the Pacific war.



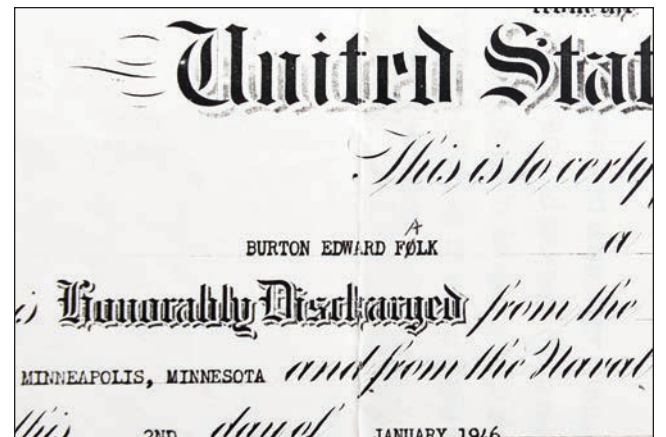
USS Darke carried troops and put landing craft like this in the water at Iwo Jima and Okinawa.



Falk, upper left, and his buddies show off a captured Japanese flag.



Falk was chosen to do the Pledge of Allegiance at the rededication of Victory Memorial Drive in Minneapolis.



Falk's discharge certificate shows the incorrect spelling of his name, which was corrected at a later date.



Falk is a proud "plank owner" for the USS Darke, meaning he was one of the original crew. He kept a log of important events on his plank owner certificate including the surrender of Japan in Tokyo Bay.

Listening Post

News from around the State



WILLMAR HONORS MEMBERS -- Longtime members of the Willmar Post 167 were honored for their longtime continuous membership recently.



MAPLE LAKE CERTIFICATES -- Maple Lake Post 131 honored its longtime members. From right: Les Paumen, Larry Munstenteiger, Gary Jude, and Harold Brutlag, received certificates.



NEW ULM HONORS SAL -- Longtime Sons of the American Legion members at New Ulm Squadron 132 were honored with certificates and gifts. From left: Gene Olswold, Detachment Commander; Jim Bartels, Paul Maday, Dave Wolf, Jess Roiger, and Tim Rathman, squadron commander.



HERON LAKE HONOREE -- A letter of recognition went to Leo Rasche for long service, presented by Daniel Glass, commander of Heron Lake Post 224.



BAYPORT HONORS STUDENTS -- Bayport Post 491 honored foreign exchange students at Stillwater High School at a dinner. From left: Kamila Aitybekova, Carlos Mas-Rigo, Ayane Tanaka, Can Sommermeyer. All were given flags.



WOODBURY HONORS ROTC -- Woodbury Post 501 honored high school ROTC members. At left, Jackson Saice won the "General Military Excellence" award and at right, Teven Tharalson won the "American Legion Scholastic" medal. At center is Post Commander Tom Grezek.



BACKUS THEATER -- Backus Post 368's "Usual Suspects Theater" paid tribute to the Laugh-In television show. Paul Deibel, left, played Col. Von Snauser and Wally Etzel played Pvt. Viener Schnitzel.



FIFTH DISTRICT ORATORICAL -- The Fifth District Oratorical winner was Isaac Winnes. From left are Donald Winnes, Isaac's father; Isaac; and Fifth District Vice Commander Ray Eiden.



LUVERNE FUN DAY -- The Second District sponsors an annual Fun Day at the Minnesota Veterans Home at Luverne.



ORATORICAL CONTEST -- Minnesota Oratorical champion Isaac Winnes posed with National Commander Dale Barnett and Richard Anderson, National Americanism Chair, at the national contest in Indianapolis.

Taps

Kava, John L., 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 27, 2016. He served with the 59th Engineers in Fairbanks, Alaska. He was a past commander of Barnesville Post 153, and he served as Ninth District Adjutant in 1995-96 and as Ninth District Commander from 1997-98.

Dahl, Roger E., 86, Army veteran of the Korean War, died May 6, 2016. He was a member of Albert Lea Post 56.

Flugum, Howard M., 89, Army veteran of World War II, died May 8, 2016. He was a member of Albert Lea Post 56.

Lykken, Emil C., 92, Army veteran of World War II, died May 11, 2016. He was a member of Albert Lea Post 56.

Hammerschmidt, Reynold "Swede," 90, Army veteran of World War II, died April 21, 2016. He served in France and Germany. He was a member of Redwood Falls Post 38.

Hanson, Roger C., 80, Air Force veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars, died April 17, 2016. He served 22 years and retired as a master sergeant. He was a member of Millerville Post 527.

Carlson, Marshall, 88, Army veteran of World War II, died April 8, 2016. He was a member of Pine City Post 51.

Lauer, Ernest, 89, Navy veteran of World War II, died April 18, 2016. He was a member of Pine City Post 51.

Fedder, Adolf, 85, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 24, 2016. He was a member of Pine City Post 51.

Tolzin, Curt, 75, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 28, 2016. He was a master sergeant. He was a member of Cleveland Post 207.

Moe, Clarence, 99, Army veteran of World War II, died April 30, 2016. He served in the South Pacific. He was a member of East Grand Forks Post 157.

Filipski, Chester, 71, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died May 4, 2016. He was a member of East Grand Forks Post 157.

Voiss, Gerald L., 77, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died May 1, 2016. He was a member of East Grand Forks Post 157.

Wasson, Donovan Elsworth, 94, Army veteran of World War II, died April 21, 2016. He served in the field artillery in the 772nd Tank Destroyer Battalion. He later volunteered for the Airborne, and served in the 503rd Parachute Regimental Combat Team and the 462nd Parachute Field Artillery Battalion. He served in the Pacific and was a guard when Gen. MacArthur raised the flag again at Corregidor. He was a past commander of Mora Post 201.

Ellingson, Orville, 88, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 28, 2016. He served in the artillery. He was a member of Thief River Falls Post 117.

Justin, Nick, 91, Army veteran of World War II, died April 26, 2016. He served in the light artillery. He was a member of St. Stephen Post 221.

Asmus, Delroy A., 92, Army veteran of World War II, died April 29, 2016. He served in the Pacific. He was a member of Morris Post 29.

Bellrichard, Basil Edward Francis "Sparky," 90, Army veteran of World War II, died April 28, 2016. He served in Austria where he helped to set up the telephone system after the war. He was a member of Austin Post 91.

Johnson, Stuart Monroe, 90, veteran of World War II, died April 20, 2016. He served in the Pacific and earned a Bronze Star. He was a member of New London Post 537.

Ardolf, Albert L., 90, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 20, 2016. He was a member of the Color Guard of Silver Lake Post 141.

Schneider, Roger E., 83, Army veteran of the Korean War, died May 1, 2016. He was a member of Arlington Post 250.

Fobbe, Ralph T., 91, Army veteran of World War II, died April 17, 2016. He was a member of Maple Lake Post 131.

Warzecha, Kenneth E., 77, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 19, 2016. He stayed in the Reserves and retired in 1992. He was a member of Holdingford Post 211.

Mehrkens, Ken, 72, Air National Guard veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 17, 2016. He was a member of Thief River Falls Post 117.

Jenson, John W., 72, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 20, 2016. He served in the 57th Artillery in Okinawa as a launcher crewman. He was a member of Waseca Post 228.

Larson, Arlen, 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 17, 2016. He was a member of Waseca Post 228.

Hanway, Gary L., 68, Army veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 25, 2016. He worked as an air traffic controller in Vietnam. He was a member of Thief River Falls Post 117.

Peterson, Robert C., 70, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 26, 2016. He was an aircraft mechanic. He was a member of Granite Falls Post 69.

Rodahl, Carl Michael, 72, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 29, 2016. He was stationed in Germany. He was a member of Waseca Post 228.

Shelley, Dale A., 88, Marine Corps veteran of World War II, died April 14, 2016. He was a member of Little Falls

Post 46.

Williamson, Earl A., 85, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 23, 2016. He was a member of Little Falls Post 46.

Ponto, Earl, "Bud," 78, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 1, 2016. He served in the Second Armored Division. He was a member of Eyota Post 551.

Spiczka, Francis, 72, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died April 10, 2016. He was a member of Tyler Post 185.

Backowski, Patrick F., 92, Navy veteran of World War II, died April 28, 2016. He was a member of Flensburg Post 136.

Angen, Harland Clifton, 92, Navy veteran of World War II, died April 12, 2016. He served as a flight engineer with the Naval Transport Service in the South Pacific. He was a member of Alexandria Post 87.

Keehn, George V., 95, Army veteran of the World War II, died April 20, 2016. He was stationed in the Aleutian Islands. He was a member of Alexandria Post 87.

Freemark, Peter, 78, Army Reserve veteran of the Korean War, died May 3, 2016. He was a member of Hackensack Post 202.

Hodge, Harold LeRoy, 79, National Guard veteran of the Vietnam War, died May 6, 2016. He served for 38 years and retired as a command sergeant major. He was a member of Madison Post 158.

Skillrud, Robert, 84, Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War, died April 13, 2016. He was a past commander of Sauk Rapids Post 254.

Sobieck, Nicolas "Butch," 81, Navy veteran of the Korean War, died May 4, 2016. He was a member of Sauk Rapids Post 254.

Strand, John Driscoll, 89, Army veteran of World War II and the Korean War, died April 5, 2016. He served in Europe in World War II and was a staff sergeant. During the Korean War, he was a first lieutenant. He was a member of Madison Post 158.

Moens, Milton, 91, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died April 5, 2016. He was a tail gunner on a B-17 and served in Europe with the 15th Air Force. He bailed out over Yugoslavia, but he escaped capture and later flew more missions. He was a member of Madison Post 158.

Plathe, Harvey Clement, 89, Navy veteran of World War II, died April 27, 2016. He was a member of Bellingham Post 441.

Schroeder, William, 95, Army veteran of World War II, died April 17, 2016. He served in the 699th Engineering Corps in India and Burma. He was a member of Evansville Post 188.

Zeller, Eldon W., 82, Air Force veteran of the Vietnam War, died May 13, 2016. He served for 22 years. He was a member of East Grand Forks Post 157.

Mortier, Francis "Mort," 87, Army veteran of the

Korean War, died April 29, 2016. He served in the combat engineers in the Philippines. He was a past commander of Tyler Post 185, and was later a member of Marshall Post 113.

Fischer, John, 85, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 30, 2016. He was a paratrooper. He was a member of Waconia Post 150.

Huss, Wallace, 87, Army veteran of the Korean War, died May 9, 2016. He was a member of New Prague Post 45.

O'Brien, Eileen Rossman, 92, Navy veteran of World War II, died April 22, 2016. She was a pharmacist's mate second class and served in Texas. She was a member of Kasson Post 333.

Bleth, James, 83, Air Force veteran of the Korean War, died May 10, 2016. He served in Alaska. He was a member of Bemidji Post 14.

Blue, Dean F., 89, Navy veteran of World War II, died May 12, 2016. He served on the escort carrier USS Hoggatt Bay. He was a member of Granite Falls Post 69.

Reed, Raymond L., 87, Army veteran of the Korean War, died May 3, 2016. He was a member of Bertha Post 366.

Janovsky, James, 84, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 13, 2016. He was a member of Faribault Post 43.

Jones, Richard, 95, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died April 13, 2016. He served in the Pacific. He was a member of Faribault Post 43.

Schwartz, John C., 84, Army veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars, died May 16, 2016. He served two tours in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. He earned a Silver Star and two Bronze Stars. He served for 24 years. He was a member of Gaylord Post 433.

Kodet, Leonard J., 91, Army veteran of World War II, died May 16, 2016. He served in the 67th Armored Regiment as a tank driver in Europe. He was a member of Redwood Falls Post 38.

Jacobson, Elmer N., 95, Navy veteran of World War II, died May 13, 2016. He served at Okinawa, Esperitu Santi, New Hebrides, Russell Island, Bougainville and Solomon Islands. He was a member of Redwood Falls Post 38.

Branstad, Carl O., 95, Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, died May 14, 2016. He was a fighter pilot in the Pacific serving at Okinawa, the Philippines and Iwo Jima. He was a member of Albert Lea Post 56.

de Cathelineau, Herve D., 87, Army veteran of the Korean War, died April 23, 2016. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Broberg, Verne H., 97, Army veteran of World War II, died April 24, 2016. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Dahl, Orville, 93, Army veteran of World War II, died May 1, 2016. He was a member of Willmar Post 167.

Please make sure obituaries are complete

In recent months, many obituaries are being turned into the Minnesota Legionnaire late or with incomplete information. At the same time, more posts are submitting obituaries.

Our standing policy, established 10 years ago, calls for obituaries to be less than two months old. For example, for this June issue, obituaries will only be accepted from April and May. If they are even one day late, they will not be accepted.

Obituaries should include the complete name, date of death, branch of service, war era, and the name of the post -- city and number. Information about the veteran's service record including valor medals will also be used. Likewise, information about a veteran's service to the Legion will also be used in brief, for instance to say he or she was a commander.

The official policy is as follows:

Obituaries of members of the Legion Family will be published in the Minnesota Legionnaire in a monthly column under the heading "Taps."

Obituaries must be recent, within the last two months prior to the publication of the new edition of the Legionnaire. For example, the February edition would only contain obituaries from January and December.

While the obituaries are brief, the Legionnaire does seek certain information for

our readers:

1. Complete name of deceased.
2. Age at death.
3. Branch of service and war or wars the veteran served in.
4. Exact date of death.
5. Additional information about the veteran's service background including unit, type of service,

place of service, medals, etc.

6. The post, unit or squadron the deceased belonged to.

7. Additional information about Legion service including officer posts held.

The Legionnaire reserves the right to edit all obituaries for style and brevity.

Membership Chart As of May 18, 2016

District	2016 Goal	Total 2015	Total 2016	Percent of Goal	Same Date '15
1	9,627	9,574	9,260	96.19	9,512
2	7,779	7,705	7,456	95.85	7,692
3	12,165	12,116	11,841	97.34	12,043
4	2,561	2,560	2,503	97.74	2,517
5	2,829	2,788	2,628	92.93	2,803
6	12,485	12,415	11,912	95.41	12,364
7	6,997	6,926	6,597	94.31	6,899
8	4,630	4,593	4,349	93.93	4,571
9	7,332	7,172	6,911	95.56	7,136
10	10,964	10,917	10,503	95.80	10,918
At-large	3,734	2,661	2,682	71.83	2,632
Totals	81,000	79,427	76,642	94.62	79,087

District Commanders

THIRD DISTRICT

**Don Skow
Commander**



Greetings Thundering Third:

Our membership program is only about 300 renewals from completing our mission, which is goal. Together we can get this done before the end of June.

The Membership Packet Pick-up will be Saturday, June 25th, at 10 a.m. at Apple Valley Post 1776. There will be a short program and lunch will be provided. We need someone from every post to be there.

The Consolidated Post Reports are due at Department June 1st; we need 100% participation with this report so please help us complete this task.

The Department Convention is in Rochester starting July 21st through the 23rd. This is sort of close to home so let's send a large delegation from the Third District.

This Legion year is rapidly coming to a close and I would like to say a "Big Thank You" to all of our Third District Family members for all you do in support of our mission.

Remember "Attitude is everything."
For God and Country.

FOURTH DISTRICT

**Dan Williams
Commander**



We just celebrated Memorial Day. The last Monday in May, "the unofficial start of summer." Too often the memory of those lost in and as a result of war is simply glossed over. Memorial Day is much more than a perch on the horizon of picnic and vacation season. This is a time when we should remember this country went through a horrific civil war resulting in more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers being buried together in Arlington National Cemetery, years before the war was ended. Thousands more were buried across the country. The first recognition of this special day was called Decoration Day. Dedicated volunteers placed flowers and memorials on the graves of our fallen. After that, our country began to honor our dead from World War I also. The day gradually became known as Memorial Day. This year, I hope you took time to reflect on our fallen comrades. We continue to receive remains with dignity and respect. Consider those whom, in battle or a POW camp, gave their last full measure of devotion for this great country and her future. We are that future! Never forget them. Never, never, never.

Calendar: June 4th District Convention 9:00 AM – Post 577; June 11th Dignified Flag Disposal at Disabled Veterans Camp 11:00 AM; June 14th Flag Day; June 19th District Hospital Visitation 1:00 PM; June 20th Shop, Ship and Share meeting 6:30 PM – Post 39; June 25th 4th/5th District Joint Picnic at Disabled Veterans Camp.

FIFTH DISTRICT

**Gary Martin
Commander**



Greeting from The Fifth District.

On April 29, 2016 The American Legion lost a great friend and Legionnaire in Virgil Vincent Persing. He will be truly missed. On behalf of the Fifth District our condolences to his wife Mary and family.

It seems like yesterday that I started on my journey as Fifth District Commander and it is now drawing to a close. It been a rewarding year working with a great slate of officers and committeemen, committee chairs and the fantastic corps of volunteers who fill our ranks and I truly want to include our Fifth District Auxiliary Units for what they do supporting our programs and what they do for our Veterans. Thank you also to our Sons of the Legion, American Legion Riders and Juniors for all for your efforts.

I also wish to thank my wife Julie, Fifth District Auxiliary President, for her counsel and encouragement and for being a great sounding board.

It has been a busy few weeks gathering reports, convention planning, testimonials, Memorial Day Programs and District Memorial Program and District Convention.

As we move forward we will elect, appoint and reappoint officers for the ensuing Legion year. They cannot do the job by themselves. They need the support and commitment of the Districts posts and membership to truly get the job done.

Membership is a never ending program, getting the

stragglers to renew seems to be one of the hardest issues we face. Keep making that personal contact.

As always, "Keep Moving Forward" and "Keep It Positive."

SIXTH DISTRICT

**Dewayne Collins
Commander**



Let's give the Nisswa Post 627 a big thank you for hosting the convention. This welcome goes out to all Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, Junior Auxiliary and American Legion Riders as we are American Legion family.

We all have lots of work to do for this convention in a short amount of time as we meet. All of us will have to take responsibility to get this done today. I want thank you for all your efforts for today and this past year. As a Legion Family we had a great year working together.

I want to say big thank you to the four vice commanders for their hard work on membership this year, with the rate increase in January this year. By the end of my term we'll be at 96 percent for the district.

I want to say thank you to my home post, Post 255 Brainerd Legion family. For their support this last year as well as my wife Charlotte and my family as I served the district as commander. It has been a great honor.

This last year has went by so fast, I have learned so much about the American Legion family. I want to thank all the posts that I had a privilege to visit for their warm welcome and hospitality.

Again thank you for the honor to serve as your commander for the last year. I will continue to assist the 6th District and be a leader in the staff of the Minnesota Legion family. I had one of the best teams this year to get everything that we had to do. Thank you. With this new leadership for the coming year I'll continue supporting your team.

I hope you had a great time at this convention and had a safe trip home.

Thank you again for this opportunity to serve.

SEVENTH DISTRICT

**Karen Welander
Commander**



Greetings to the Mighty Seventh.

We have our work cut out for us to sign up new and renewal members. It will not get any easier the rest of the year. I hope we can make one last push to get them signed up as soon as possible. Many Posts are so close to making goal so don't give up, keep working on your membership. We want everyone to be a part of what we are all so proud of.

Remember Flag Day is June 14, a day of celebration. Fly Old Glory with pride. Many Posts celebrate the day with a dignified disposal of unserviceable flags from their community. The United States Flag Code reflects how we respect and display the flag.

The cool Spring we have had is now turning into a warmer season. The Legion Riders are planning their Legacy Runs to support the families left behind by fallen soldiers. The American Legion family supports the Riders by widely opening their Posts doors when the Riders stop at their location to promote the American Legion Legacy Scholarship which goes to the children of military who have died in the war on terrorism since 9-11.

Keep the pride of The American Legion helping all veterans and their families strong. Remember freedom is not free.

EIGHTH DISTRICT

**Jennifer Havlick
Commander**



As our Legion year begins to wind down I would like to thank everyone who worked hard to meet their post membership goal. Final delegate count for the Department Convention will be determined from the June 14th Bulletin, so round up any outstanding memberships and get them into Department ASAP.

This will be my second to last Legionnaire article as my year as Commander of the 8th District is coming to a close. I have met and worked with some amazing dedicated Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, Legion Riders and Legion Auxiliary and it has been my honor to work alongside all of you.

Finally I would like to talk about the organization I've chosen for my Commander's Project. That organization is

the 23rd Veteran. The 23rd Veteran's mission is to empower veterans to lead successful lives. They provide a long-term transition process for veterans leaving the military, and those who were never properly transitioned, therefore reducing, veteran drug and alcohol and medication abuse and veteran suicide, divorce, crime rates. Together we can save our heroes. Please send your donations to the 8th District American Legion of Minnesota c/o District Finance Officer Marvin Ott, at 31617 Wakeman Bay Rd. Grand Rapids, MN 55744. Attention Commander Havlick's project. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Department Convention in July.

NINTH DISTRICT

**Denise Milton
Commander**



Greetings Roaring Ninth District.

This will be my final column as your district commander. I want to take this time to thank all the members of our Legion Family for your support and dedication to continue working for the causes of our veterans, their families and our communities. The District convention is fast approaching (8 & 9 June) in Mahanomen at their home post. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Let's make this the best convention ever! We will be electing a new slate of officers and it would be appreciated to show them our support in attending. All committee reports will be given-we have a new baseball chairman and a new active ALR chairman that will be attending.

I received the most recent update on CPR's completed and we aren't doing well-we sit at 29.7% completed (19 posts). Let's get these done, remember that our very own Art Tobkin is the Department Americanism chairman. This is our 'proof' when going to Congress to lobby for veterans causes.

Membership card pick up is scheduled for 20 June for the new year, the new district team will be going down to pick them up and receive any updates from National and Department. You will be contacted by your Vice Commander to schedule a time to receive the packets- I am requesting that you each have a paid membership and your Post Officer report completed to give them when receiving the new membership packet. Thank you in advance. Let's make this the best year possible for our new Commander and his team. Continue working on membership for this year. We have till December 31.

Thank you to the entire Ninth District American Legion Family for all that you do for our veterans and military members, their families and our communities and our country. There is no better place to live.

TENTH DISTRICT

**Bill Johnson
Commander**



Greetings from the Mighty Tenth,

It's been a couple of months since my last article, so I have some catching up to do. Since my last article, we have completed our District rallies for the year, with our St. Patrick's Day Rally being held at the Delano Post, and our April ALR rally being held at Maple Lake. Both had good turnouts. Since then we have been preparing for our District Convention, which will be held at the Osseo-Maple Grove American Legion Post 172. I want to give a big shout out to John Torma the Convention Chair, who has kept us on track, and also to all the members of the Post for all their volunteer efforts.

In May I also held my testimonial which was well attended. Again this was held at Post 172, my home post. I was sufficiently roasted, but also honored by the wonderful people of the 10th District. I was especially moved when my post presented me with an Honorary Life Membership. Also the District Officers pitched in to buy me a Past Commanders jacket.

As I reflect, I have had a wonderful year so far. The best part has always been, and always will be visiting the posts in my District. The good works each Post does for Veterans and their community is what the Legion is about. They exemplify all that is right about this organization.

LIT Scholarships listed

The 2016 winners are:

Abigail Nies, Aitkin, Bemidji State Univesity, sponsored by Aitkin Post 86.

Julianna Pederson, Westbrook, South Dakota State University, sponsored by Westbrook Post 152.

Jackson Nash, Warroad, University of Minnesota, Duluth, sponsored by Warroad Post 25.

State Legion Bowling Tournament for 2016

Auxiliary Team

	POST #	POST AND NAMES	SCORE	PRIZE
1	40	LANESBORO, LORI ANDERSON DEEANN HIMLI SUE LANCE ELLEN WAGNER	2673	\$200.00
2	94	RUSHFORD, LEXIE BOEHMKE LORI KIGER TANYA BOEHMKE KAREN SORUM	2541	\$120.00
3	580	CHANHASSEN, PATRICIA REILY SHARON REIN ELLEN DIFFERDING LAURA LARSON	2513	\$80.00
4	144	BELLE PLAINE, ESSENE GRATE ESTHER SCHULTZ LAVONNE BEHNKE CHAR HESPENHEIDE	2481	\$32.00
			12 TEAMS BOWLED	PAYOUT \$432

Auxiliary Singles

PLACE	POST #	POST AND NAME	SCORE	PRIZE
1	94	RUSHFORD, LEXIE BOEHMKE	743	\$103.00
2	254	SAUK RAPIDS, KAREN KREAMER	714	\$70.00
3	418	HAMLIN, LAURIE BURNS	710	\$60.00
4	38	R. FALLS, ROBERTA JENNIGES	702	\$50.00
5	377	DELANO, GINNY DWYER	700	\$30.00
6	94	RUSHFORD, HUNTER DUNBAR	699	\$30.00
7	144	BELLE PLAINE, PAT KOEPP	698	\$25.00
8	85	NORTH BRANCH, KELLY COLEMAN	695	\$25.00
9	40	LANESBORO, ELLEN WAGNER	680	\$25.00
10	94	RUSHFORD, TANYA BOEHMKE	678	\$20.00
11	377	DELANO, ANGELA WINTERHALTER	677	\$20.00
12	40	LANESBORO, DEEANN HIMLI	674	\$20.00
13	40	LANESBORO, SUE LANCE	674	\$20.00
14	333	KASSON, RHONDA RHODES	673	\$20.00
15	333	KASSON, DEBRA RUPORT	667	\$20.00
16	428	WAITE PARK, PATTI WICK	662	\$15.00
17	94	RUSHFORD, TRACEY QUARVE	658	\$15.00
18	112	ELK RIVER, LORI NORVITCH	653	\$15.00
19	580	CHANHASSEN, SHARON REIN	650	\$15.00
20	491	BAYPORT, STEPH JOHNSON	649	\$10.00
21	144	BELLE PLAINE, ESTHER SCHULTZ	648	\$10.00
22	85	NORTH BRANCH, SHERRI PIERCE	647	\$10.00
23	455	COLD SPRINGS, CINDY GOEPFERD	644	\$10.00
24	320	HOPKINS, DEBRA CARLSON	643	\$10.00
			72 SINGLES	PAYOUT \$648

Auxiliary All Events

PLACE	POST	NAME	SCORE	PRIZE
1	94, RUSHFORD	LEXIE BOEHMKE	2083	\$60.00
2	38, REDWOOD FALLS	ROBERTA JENNIGES	2070	\$30.00
3	254, SAUK RAPIDS	KAREN KREAMER	2059	\$20.00
4	40, LANESBORO	ELLEN WAGNER	2046	\$10.00
5	40, LANESBORO	SUE LANCE	2036	\$10.00
6	418, HAMLIN	LAURIE BURNS	2020	\$5.00
7	85, NORTH BRANCH	KELLY COLEMAN	2001	\$5.00
			70 ALL EVENTS	PAYOUT \$140

Auxiliary Doubles

PLACE	POST	NAME	SCORE	PRIZE
1	94, RUSHFORD	KALLIE CARLSON DEB CARLSON	1386	\$130.00
2	40, LANESBORO	SUE LANCE 1364 ELLEN WAGNER	1356	\$60.00
3	507, MAHTOMEDI	KIM LAGOON	1356	\$60.00
4	94, RUSHFORD	JACKIE LAGOON LEXIE BOEHMKE TANYA BOEHM KE	1324	\$40.00
5	144, BELLE PLAINE	PAT KOEPP 1306 CAROL BARLAGE	\$30.00	
6	85, NORTH BRANCH	KELLY FEDUN KELLY COLEMAN	1302	\$30.00
7	40, LANESBORO	LORI ANDERSON DEEANN HIMLI	1299	\$20.00
8	254, SAUK RAPIDS	KAREN KREMERS JUDY CAGLE	1291	\$20.00
8	202, HACKENSACK	JANICE PFARR MISSY SMEIGA	1291	\$20.00
			25 DOUBLES	PAYOUT—\$450.00

Legion Team

PLACE	POST	TEAM	SCORE	PRIZE
1	108, LE CENTER	KEN BASCHKKO MIKE HUONDER LARRY NELSON MICK WESTENG	2739	\$784.00
2	523, GOLDEN VALLEY	TOM GOFF SCOTT GOFF JASON OSGOOD BRAD OSGOOD	2698	\$600.00
3	104, LITCHFIELD	JOSH TELECKY MATT BEILKE BRAD ZIEGENHAGEN GARY HOLTZ	2677	\$500.00
4	94, RUSHFORD	COREY ANDERSON BILL MOE MICKY MOE DANNY MOE	2668	\$300.00
5	428, WAITE PARK	DALE PURSLEY DENNIS PURSLEY TOM KEMPENICH DON LEWANDOWSKI	2666	\$100.00
6	77, OWATONNA	AL SCHROHT BRYAN BERRY DON CONNER RON BURR	2650,	\$100.00
7	281, JANESVILLE	CRYSTAL GLASING FLOYD HENNE CHAD BLASING DAVE BLASING	2641	\$100.00
8	172, OSSEO-M. GROVE	MATT GANGSTEE CHAD MUNDAHL JEFF RASUMSSEN SCOTT GIESEMAN	2624,	\$100.00
9	428, WAITE PARK	RANDY THEIS RAY THEIS TRAVIS THEIS LANCE HENGEL	2620	\$80.00
9	38, REDWOOD FALLS	BOB JENNIGES TYLER JENNIGES ROBERTA JENNIGES DOUG MOODY	2620	\$80.00

11	94, RUSHFORD	STEVEN WESTBY CHRIS ROGICH MICKIE KIGER DAVE ALLARD	2609	\$80.00
12	260, MONTICELLO	AL SCHMIDT RICK SWANSON KEVIN NEU BRUCE THIBODEAU	2606	\$80.00
13	281, JANESVILLE	NELS BARBKNECHT FRANK MILLER CLINTON ROGERS JUSTIN MILLER	2605	\$80.00
14	491, BAYPORT	SUE MC GEE ALEX ROELLER JEFF JOHNSON BRAD SMITH	2602	\$80.00
15	248, ELY	JAMES KOSCHAK BOB KOSCHAK RALPH BONDE JOHN BRAUN	2601	\$80.00
16	491, BAYPORT	JON MONTY SCOTT SCHIDT SHAWN SIEBERT JEFF GALLOWITZ	2600	\$80.00
17	119, BYRON	JIM HOUGH HJOE PRIES JASON WILKER CHRIS HOUGH	2599	\$60.00
18	126, COSMOS	JIM LEIS GERALD PETERSON DEVIN FREDERIKSEN MARK BAKKE	2596	\$60.00
19	40, LANESBORO	GENE WANGEN CLAY WANGEN PAUL HANSON JIM HIMLI	2593	\$60.00
20	311, ELYSIAN	TREVOR LARSON TROY LARSON DOUG BAUER DARRELL WAUGH	2591	\$60.00
21	428, WAITE PARK	LINDA WILLIAMS AL HENNEN JON WILLIAMS NATE WILLIAMS	2589	\$60.00
22	431, TWIN VALLEY	BEN FALL 2588 COREY HANSON JODY BUENG LYNN CHRISTIANSON	\$60.00	
23	38, REDWOOD FALLS	LARRY KRECKOW BRAD BUSACK CHUCK SCHOENBERG MAX JENSON	2584	\$60.00
24	91, AUSTIN	STEVE KROB JERRY ULWELLING HOWARD MAJERUS DAVID RING	2583	\$60.00
25	377, DELANO	ROBERT ARNDT SCOTT ARNDT ROBBY ARNDT TODD ARNDT	2580	\$60.00
26	43, FARIBAULT	GARY PAQUETTE DAVE DEFRIES TIM BLOM MATT TRUMAN	2574	\$60.00
26	164, STEWARTVILLE	ANTHONY LILLY ROGER PETERSON LANCE PETERSON CHRIS PUGH	2574	\$60.00
28	126, COSMOS	LORVERN SCHMELING NATH FREDERIKSEN TRAVIS FREDERIKSEN ALEX SCHMELING	2568	\$60.00
29	418, HAMLIN	BOB BROBERG BRAD RARDIN ADAM GKOETZKE JEFF BROBERG	2564	\$60.00
30	104, LITCHFIELD	KEN KOELLN DAVID BOLL TIM KOELLN ANTHONY CARLSON	2557	\$60.00
31	428, WAITE PARK	RICK WEGLER DUANE STEFFES PAUL KUEHL RICHARD STEFFES	2553	\$60.00
32	257, SPRINGFIELD	JOHN MORITZ CHUCK ROIGER CURT ERICKSON RANDY ROIGER	2542	\$60.00
33	206, WINDOM	ISSAC GLIDDEN KEN LEALSE KEVIN BRISTOW GARY JOHNSON	2538	\$60.00
34	71, WEST DULUTH	CARL HENDRICKSON KEN HOLETS NEIL BUSCH DAVE OLYNYK	2534	\$40.00
35	257, SPRINGFIELD	KURT KRATZ BOB REINER JOHN JENNIGES JERRY FIELD	2530	\$40.00
35	77, OWATONNA	MIKE MCGINN HENRY RYPKA RON STOCK SCOTT FERCH	2530	\$40.00
37	254, SAUK RAPIDS	CHRIS GOHMAN JAKE SCHUMAKER LONNIE CAGLE KEVIN GRAVES	2527	\$40.00
38	491, BAYPORT	ANDY JOHNSON BILLIE JO SMITH TRISSTA JOHNSON BRANDON JOHNSON	2524	\$40.00
38	491, BAYPORT	NATE WIELAND RENEE DICKINSON CHARLIE JOHNSON MARC PALMER	2524	\$40.00
40	550, BLOOMINGTON	MIKE ZYTKOVICZ LEROY BLOMMEL GLEN RAMTHUN DAVID ANDERSON	2522	\$40.00
41	550, BLOOMINGTON	RICK THOMSON CHRIS THOMSON KRIS KELLER KEN KELLER	2521	\$40.00
42	112, ELK RIVER	JOHN WIRTZ TIM HILLER JR TRENT HILLER TYLER HILLER	2516	\$40.00
43	491, BAYPORT	STEPH JOHNSON DICK GROBNER PAM JOHNSON JASON GROBNER	2507	\$40.00
			129 TEAMS	PAYOUT \$4644

Legion Singles

PLACING	POST #	POST AND NAME	SCORE	PRIZE
1	40	LANESBORO, BLAINE HARMON	797	\$250.00
2	257	SPRINGFIELD, KURT KRATZ	781	\$180.00
3	85	NORTH BRANCH, SCOTT MILLER	771	\$150.00
4	491	BAYPORT, ALEX ROELLER	770	\$125.00
5	104	LITCHFIELD, BRAD ZIEGENHAGEN	764	\$100.00
6	108	LE CENTER, KEN BLASCHKO	763	\$80.00
7	418	HAMLIN, BRAD RARDIN	749	\$80.00
8	523	GOLDEN VALLEY, JASON OSGOOD	748	\$70.00
9	260	MONTICELLO, KEVIN NEU	746	\$70.00
10	428	WAITE PARK, RANDY THEIS	739	\$60.00
11	56	ALBERT LEA, MICK WESTENG	736	\$60.00
12	428	WAITE PARK, STEVEN MANN	735	\$50.00
13	491	BAYPORT, JEFF JOHNSON	733	\$50.00
14	172	OSSEO-M. GR, STEVE ERICKSON	731	\$50.00
15	71	WEST DULUTH, RON LALIBERTE	727	\$50.00
16	377	DELANO, PETE LARSON	725	\$50.00
17	418	HAMLIN, MIKE BLACKSTONE	721	\$40.00
18	91	AUSTIN, MIKE BARTESCH	720	\$40.00
19	281	JANESVILLE, FRANK MILLER	718	\$40.00
20	91	AUSTIN, DAVID RING	716	\$35.00
21	126	COSMOS, GERALD PETERSON	713	\$35.00
22	290	CAMBRIDGE, JASON HAWKINS	711	\$35.00
23	428	WAITE PARK, CHRIS HIESERICH	708	\$35.00
23	209	WINDOM, FRED MEYER	708	\$35.00
25	126	COSMOS, NATH FREDERIKSEN	707	\$35.00
26	254	SAUK RAPIDS, BRANDON REESE	706	\$30.00
26	418	HAMLIN, SHAWN FLINN	706	\$30.00
26	126	COSMOS, LORLANE SCHMELING	706	\$30.00
26	126	COSMOS, TRAVIS FREDERIKSEN	706	\$30.00
30	96	HUTCHINSON, JOHN KOBOW	705	\$30.00
30	255	BRAINERD, RON MICKEVICIUS	705	\$30.00
32	56	ALBERT LEA, TOM NORBY	703	\$30.00
33	77	OWATONNA, BRYAN BERRY	702	\$30.00
34	40	LANESBORO, STEVE RAHN	700	\$30.00
35	94	RUSHFORD RICK CARLSON	699	\$30.00
35	377	DELANO, DAVE WENDT	699	\$30.00
37	38	REDWOOD FALLS, TYLER JENNIGES	697	\$30.00
37	104	LITCHFIELD ANTHONY CARLSON	697	\$30.00
39	206	WINDOM, RON ALM	694	\$30.00
40	40	LANESBORO, KEVIN DRAKE	693	\$30.00
40	77	OWATONNA, DON CONNER	693	\$30.00
42	433	GAYLORD, RYAN EVERS	691	\$30.00
43	94	RUSHFORD, MICKY MOE	689	\$30.00
43	580	CHANHASSEN, NICK REIN	689	\$30.00
43	71	WEST DULUTH, NEIL BUSCH	689	\$30.00
46	428	WAITE PARK, TRAVIS THEIS	688	\$30.00
46	580	CHANHASSEN, DOUGLAS DARE	688	\$30.00
46	431	TWIN VALLEY, COREY HANSON	688	\$30.00
49	119	BYRON, GLENN RAUSCH	687	\$30.00
50	119	BYRON, JIM HOUGH	686	\$30.00
50	377	DELANO, JEFF WENDT	686	\$30.00
52	248	ELY, RALPH, BONDE	684	\$30.00
52	328	ST. JOSEPH, TIM LOSO	684	\$30.00
52	6	PIPESTONE, ED HANSON	684	\$30.00
55	377	DELANO, TODD ARNDT	683	\$25.00
56	77	OWATONNA, HENRY RYPKA	682	\$25.00
56	507	MAHTOMEDI, TOM LEONARD	682	\$25.00
58	428	WAITE PARK, STEVE WILLIAMS	681	\$25.00
58	248	ELY, JEFF RICHARDS	681	\$25.00
58	535	BABBITT, ROGER SALO	681	\$25.00
58	507	MAHTOMEDI, ED LIECK	681	\$25.00
62	112	ELK RIVER, CHAD DEGROAT	680	\$25.00
62	85	N. BR., FLOYD CHRISTOPHERSON	680	\$25.00
62	40	LANESBORO, JERRY POST	680	\$25.00
65	94	RUSHFORD, STEVE QUARVE	679	\$25.00
65	377	DELANO, SCOTT ARNDT	679	\$25.00
65	112	ELK RIVER, LENNY WIRTZ SR	679	\$25.00
65	248	ELY, GERALD JACOBSON	679	\$25.00
69	112	ELK RIVER, RANDY ANDERSON	678	\$25.00
69	254	SAUK RAPIDS, MIKE ALEXANDER	678	\$25.00
71	377	DELANO, RON FENNY	677	\$25.00
71	328	ST. JOSEPH, ARNIE COURT	677	\$25.00
73	491	BAYPORT, RUSS PATRICK	676	\$25.00
73	641	PLATO, DENNIS KRUSCHKE	676	\$25.00
73	112	ELK RIVER, LENNY WIRTZ JR	676	\$25.00
73	6	PIPESTONE, ROBERT DOUTY	676	\$25.00
77	428	WAITE PARK, JON WILLIAMS	675	\$25.00
77	112	ELK RIVER, TIM HILLER SR	675	\$25.00
77	248	ELY, BOB OLSON	675	\$25.00
80	428	WAITE PARK, DAVID STEFFES	674	\$25.00
80	404	ALDEN, PAUL DIEMER	674	\$25.00
82	94	RUSHFORD, DANNY MOE	672	\$20.00
83	71	WEST DULUTH, KEN HOLETS	671	\$20.00
84	40	LANESBORO, CLAY WANGEN	669	\$20.00
84	104	LITCHFIELD, TIM KOELLN	669	\$20.00
86	491	BAYPORT, ANDY KOLASHINSKI	668	\$20.00
86	257	SPRINGFIELD, NICK KRATZ	668	\$20.00
86	164	STEWARTVILLE, ROGER PETERSON	668	\$20.00
86	428	WAITE PARK, DOUG WALZ	668	\$20.00
86	365	HANSKA, KYLE WELLMANN	668	\$20.00
91	491	BAYPORT, JASON GROBNER	667	\$20.00
91	119	BYRON, KEN HAMMOND	667	\$20.00
91	40	LANESBORO, LOREN BERGE	667	\$20.00
91	38	REDWOOD FALLS, BOB JENNIGES	667	\$20.00
91	418	HAMLIN, BOB BROBERG	667	\$20.00
96	56	ALBERT LEA, DAVE ALLARD	666	\$20.00
97	56	ALBERT LEA, TRACY FJELDBERG	665	\$20.00
97	56	ALB. LEA, JIM VANENGELBENBURG	665	\$20.00
97	164	STEWARTVILLE, CHRIS KPUGH	665	\$20.00
97	507	MAHTOMEDI, DENNIS SWANSON	665	\$20.00
101	108	LE CENTER, MIKE HUONDER	664	\$20.00
102	491	BAYPORT, JEFF GALLOWITZ	663	\$15.00
102	40	LANESBORO, JEFF NORSTAD	663	\$15.00
102	91	AUSTIN, STEVE KROB	663	\$15.00
105	290	CAMBRIDGE, ROBERT HAMLIN	662	\$15.00
1				

127	96	HUTCHINSON, DON HOLTZ	655	\$10.00
130	38	REDWOOD FALLS, DOUG MOODY	654	\$10.00
130	126	COSMOS, JIM LEIS	654	\$10.00
132	428	WAITE PARK, TOM FERNLAND	653	\$10.00
132	40	LANESBORO, GENE WANGEN	653	\$10.00
134	428	WAITE PARK, LANCE HENGEL	652	\$10.00
134	523	GOLDEN VALLEY, BRAD OSGOOD	652	\$10.00
134	311	ELYSIAN, TROY LARSON	652	\$10.00
137	257	SPRINGFIELD, BOB KRATZ	651	\$10.00
137	274	MILROY, LANNY SIK	651	\$10.00
137	274	MILROY, LYDELL SIK	651	\$10.00
137	85	NORTH BRANCH, JAMES BOATMAN	651	\$10.00
137	126	COSMOS, JOSH LEIS	651	\$10.00
137	431	TWIN VALLEY, JODY BUENG	651	\$10.00
143	112	ELK RIVER, ROBB KAPPEL	650	\$10.00
143	40	LANESBORO, JIM BORGEN	650	\$10.00
143	104	LITCHFIELD, DAVID BOLL	650	\$10.00
143	126	COSMOS, JOHN FREDERIKSEN	650	\$10.00
147	112	ELK RIVER, JOE STOLTZ	649	\$10.00
147	94	RUSHFORD, BILL MOE	649	\$10.00
149	365	HANSKA, SHELDON PEARSE	648	\$5.00
150	91	AUSTIN, JERRY ULWELLING	647	\$5.00
150	75	NEW RICHLAND, AL WALDHAUSER	647	\$5.00
150	418	HAMLIN, TOM BURNS	647	\$5.00
153	550	BLOOMINGTON, DAVE ANDERSON	646	\$5.00
153	119	BYRON, CHRIS HOUGH	646	\$5.00
153	112	ELK RIVER, TYLER HILLER	646	\$5.00
153	542	ROSETOWN, DENNIS SCHWAB	646	\$5.00
153	507	MAHTOMEDI, ROGER LEONARD JR	646	\$5.00
158	206	WINDOM, KEVIN BRISTOW	645	\$5.00
158	77	OWATONNA, SCOTT FERCH	645	\$5.00
158	145	HOWARD LAKE, HAROLD WEIBEL	645	\$5.00
161	257	SPRINGFIELD, PAUL PIESCHEL	644	\$5.00
161	260	MONTICELLO, AL SCHMIDT	644	\$5.00
161	377	DELANO, ROGER VASS	644	\$5.00
161	206	WINDOM, DAVE GREEN	644	\$5.00
161	172	OSSEO-M. GROVE, JOHN TORMA	644	\$5.00
161	104	LITCHFIELD, GARY HOLTZ	644	\$5.00
161	365	HANSKA, BOB ROTH	644	\$5.00
161	248	ELY, JOHN DAVIS	644	\$5.00
485 SINGLES			PAYOUT \$4,425.00	

23	328, ST. JOSEPH	TIM LOSO	1359	\$60.00
		TERRY LOSO		
23	71, WEST DULUTH	NEIL BUSCH	1359	\$60.00
		DAVE OLYNYK		
26	257, SPRINGFIELD	KURT KRATZ	1358	\$50.00
		JERRY FIELD		
27	491, BAYPORT	JON MONTY	1355	\$50.00
		SCOTT SCHMIDT		
28	104, LITCHFIELD	BRAD ZIEGENHAGEN	1354	\$50.00
		GARY HOLTZ		
29	94, RUSHFORD	MICKIE KIGER	1351	\$50.00
		STEVEN WESTBY		
29	428, WAITE PARK	TRAVIS THEIS	1351	\$50.00
		LANCE HENGEL		
29	365, HANSKA	DAVE BROWN	1351	\$50.00
		BOB ROTH		
32	428, WAITE PARK	STEVEN MANN	1350	\$50.00
		WES THOMPSON		
33	119, BYRON	KEN HAMMOND	1344	\$50.00
		ROY DESSNER		
34	290, CAMBRIDGE	GENE WEST	1342	\$50.00
		GORDY FRANZ		
35	491, BAYPORT	DOUG DICKENSON	1341	\$50.00
		RYAN SWANSON		
35	491, BAYPORT	NATE WIELAND	1341	\$50.00
		MARC PALMER		
37	40, LANESBORO	CLAY WANGEN	1340	\$50.00
		PAUL HANSON		
38	260, MONTICELLO	RICK SWANSON	1338	\$50.00
		AL SCHMIDT		
39	40, LANESBORO	ROBERT THOMPSON	1331	\$50.00
		STEVE RAHN		
39	418, HAMLIN	TOM BURNS	1331	\$50.00
		MIKE SANDBERG		
41	172, OSSEO-M. GROVE	TIM LIND	1326	\$40.00
		NATE HUBERT		
42	257, SPRINGFIELD	CHUCK ROIGER	1325	\$40.00
		RANDY ROIGER		
43	43, FARIBAULT	GLEN SCHWARTZ	1324	\$40.00
		GARY PAQUETTE		
44	507, MAHTOMEDI	MIKE BREALT	1322	\$40.00
		CHRIS WAKEFIELD		
45	71, WEST DULUTH	CARL HENDRICKSON	1321	\$40.00
		KEN HOLETS		
46	164, STEWARTVILLE	PETE FISCHER	1319	\$40.00
		BRETT BUSHMAN		
47	77, OWATONNA	AL SCHROTT	1318	\$40.00
		BRYAN BERRY		
48	365, HANSKA	SHELDON PEARSE	1317	\$40.00
		MIKE PEARSE		
49	43, FARIBAULT	DOUG TRUMAN	1315	\$40.00
		MATT TRUMAN		
50	428, WAITE PARK	LAURA BENKOWSKI	1312	\$40.00
		NICK SEEMAN		
51	320, HOPKINS	DEB CARLSON	1309	\$40.00
		CRAIG SKORHEIM		
51	126, COSMOS	GERALD PETERSON	1309	\$40.00
		AARIN FREDERIKSEN		
51	255, BRAINERD	JIM REED	1309	\$40.00
		RON MICKEVICIUS		
54	428, WAITE PARK	BOB MACE	1308	\$30.00
		JASON MOHS		
55	418, HAMLIN	PAT MEYER II	1307	\$30.00
		STEVE CHRISTENSEN		
56	507, MAHTOMEDI	RON ANDREOTTI	1306	\$30.00
		NORM MORSE		
57	172, OSSEO-M. GROVE	RICK SMITH	1305	\$30.00
		TIM GRAY		
58	119, BYRON	BERNIE BORGSCHAZ	1304	\$30.00
		TODD INDYKIEWICZ		
59	40, LANESBORO	LUTHER BERGE	1303	\$30.00
		LOREN BERGE		
60	77, OWATONNA	RON STOCK	1302	\$30.00
		SCOTT FERCH		
61	491, BAYPORT	JIM WRIGHT	1301	\$30.00
		SCOTT MC GEE		
61	112, ELK RIVER	LORI NORVITCH	1301	\$30.00
		HUGO MAJUNU		
61	328, ST. JOSEPH	RON RENNIE	1301	\$30.00
		DAVE LOSO		
64	377, DELANO	PAT THINER	1299	\$30.00
		DAVE ANDERSON		
64	77, OWATONNA	MIKE MCGINN	1299	\$30.00
		HENRY RYPKA		
66	428, WAITE PARK	STEVE WILLIAMS	1296	\$20.00
		AL HENNEN		
66	320, HOPKINS	LARRY MUEHLBERG	1296	\$20.00
		CRAIG TAYLOR		
66	172, OSSEO-M. GROVE	RYAN GOODMAN	1296	\$20.00
		JOHN TORMA		
69	112, ELK RIVER	TIM HILLER SR	1294	\$20.00
		LENNY WIRTZ SR		
70	491, BAYPORT	SUE MC GEE	1291	\$20.00
		ALEX ROELLER		
71	91, AUSTIN	HOWARD MAJERUS	1290	\$20.00
		DAVID RING		
71	104, LITCHFIELD	GREG LARSON	1290	\$20.00
		TRAVIS HOLMGREN		
73	94, RUSHFORD	JEN WILLIAMS	1289	\$20.00
		SCOTT WILLIAMS		
73	433, GAYLORD	RYAN EVERS	1289	\$20.00
		MIKE WITTHUS		
75	507, MAHTOMEDI	JACK EBERHARD	1286	\$20.00
		DENNIS SWANSON		
76	94, RUSHFORD	COREY ANDERSON	1285	\$20.00
		BILL MOE		
76	40, LANESBORO	JEFF NORSTAD	1285	\$20.00
		JERRY POST		
78	418, HAMLIN	LAURIE BURNS	1284	\$20.00
		KEN COY		
79	257, SPRINGFIELD	BUTCH KREBS	1283	\$20.00
		CORY BROWN		
80	248, ELY	JEFF RICHARDS	1282	\$20.00
		RON HANSEN		
81	104, LITCHFIELD	GORDY CZYCALLA	1279	\$20.00
		RYAN BEICH		
82	333, KASSON	BRUCE LUDWIG	1278	\$20.00
		MARTY SACKETT		
82	96, HUTCHINSON	DOUG MEIER	1278	\$20.00
		JOHN KOBOW		
82	550, BLOOMINGTON	MIKE KIRROS	1278	\$20.00
		CHARLIE TICHY		
82	550, BLOOMINGTON	DON BELKENGREN	1278	\$20.00
		JOHN ELLINGSON		
86	377, DELANO	LEE JOHNSON	1277	\$20.00
		PETE LARSON		
86	507, MAHTOMEDI	MARK MORSE	1277	\$20.00
		JOHN WILKE		
253 DOUBLES			PAYOUT \$4,564	

Legion All Events

PLACE	POST	NAME	SCORE	PRIZE
1	108, LE CENTER	KEN BLASCHKO	2279	\$74.00
2	418, HAMLIN	BRAD RARDIN	2224	\$50.00
3	523, GOLDEN VALLEY	JASON OSGOOD	2165	\$40.00
4	491, BAYPORT	ALEX ROELLER	2161	\$35.00
5	257, SPRINGFIELD	KURT KRATZ	2153	\$30.00
6	104, LITCHFIELD	BRAD ZIEGENHAGEN	2148	\$30.00
7	428, WAITE PARK	STEVEN MANN	2136	\$30.00
8	94, RUSHFORD	MICKEY MOE	2135	\$25.00
9	40, LANESBORO	BLAINE HARMON	2127	\$25.00
10	40, LANESBORO	STEVE RAHN	2103	\$25.00
10	126, COSMOS	NATH FREDERIKSEN	2103	\$25.00
12	418, HAMLIN	MIKE BLACKSTONE	2100	\$25.00
13	260, MONTICELLO	KEVIN NEU	2095	\$25.00
13	428, WAITE PARK	JON WILLIAMS	2095	\$25.00
15	77, OWATONNA	DON CONNER	2089	\$20.00
16	91, AUSTIN	DAVID RING	2083	\$20.00
17	71, WEST DULUTH	RON LALIBERTE	2081	\$20.00
18	428, WAITE PARK	TRAVIS THEIS	2067	\$20.00
19	377, DELANO	JEFF WENDT	2066	\$20.00
20	56, ALBERT LEA	MICK WESTENG	2065	\$20.00
21	281, JANESVILLE	FRANK MILLER	2063	\$20.00
22	126, COSMOS	GERALD PETERSON	2061	\$20.00
23	85, NORTH BRANCH	SCOTT MILLER	2059	\$20.00
24	38, REDWOOD FALLS	DOUG MOODY	2056	\$15.00
25	94, RUSHFORD	DANNY MOE	2051	\$15.00
26	164, STEWARTVILLE	LANCE PETERSON	2050	\$15.00
27	40, LANESBORO	CLAY WANGEN	2045	\$15.00
28	523, GOLDEN VALLEY	SCOTT GOFF	2043	\$15.00
29	77, OWATONNA	BRYAN BERRY	2041	\$15.00
30	428, WAITE PARK	PAUL KUEHL	2040	\$15.00
31	119, BYRON	CHRIS HOUGH	2039	\$15.00
31	377, DELANO	SCOTT ARNDT	2039	\$15.00
31	172, OSSEO-M. GROVE	NATE HUBERT	2039	\$15.00
34	119, BYRON	JASON WILKER	2033	\$15.00
34	428, WAITE PARK	RANDY THEIS	2033	\$10.00
36	377, DELANO	RON FENNY	2030	\$10.00
37	108, LE CENTER	MIKE HUONDER	2029	\$10.00
38	85, NORTH BRANCH	M. CHRISTOPHERSON	2020	\$10.00
39	507, MAHTOMEDI	MIKE BREALT	2018	\$10.00
40	260, MONTICELLO	AL SCHMIDT	2016	\$10.00
40	254, SAUK RAPIDS	BRANDON REESE	2016	\$10.00
42	491, BAYPORT	MARC PALMER	2012	\$10.00
43	172, OSSEO-M. GROVE	MATT GANGSTEE	2010	\$10.00
44	491, BAYPORT	RUSS PATRICK	2008	\$10.00
44	96, HUTCHINSON	DON HOLTZ	2008	\$10.00
46	94, RUSHFORD	STEVE QUARVE	2007	\$10.00
47	126, COSMOS	TRAVIS FREDERIKSEN	2006	\$10.00
48	491, BAYPORT	JEFF JOHNSON	2004	\$10.00
472 ALL EVENTS			PAYOUT—\$944	

Legion Doubles

PLACE	POST	NAME	SCORE	PRIZE
1	257, SPRINGFIELD	BOB REINER	1503	\$414.00
		JOHN JENNIGES		
2	38, REDWOOD FALLS	ROBERTA JENNIGES	1486	\$300.00
		DOUG MOODY		
3	96, HUTCHINSON	DON HOLTZ	1456	\$200.00
		STEVE PETERSON		
4	254, SAUK RAPIDS	CHRIS GOHMAN	1452	\$100.00
		TONY SKUBA		
5	108, LE CENTER	KEN BLASCHKO	1447	\$90.00
		MIKE HUONDER		
6	491, BAYPORT	TRAVIS MC GEE	1409	\$90.00
		RUSS PATRICK		
7	491, BAYPORT	ANDY JOHNSON	1406	\$90.00
		TRISTA JOHNSON		
8	126, COSMOS	NATH FREDERIKSEN	1397	\$80.00
		TRAVIS FREDERIKSEN		
9	94, RUSHFORD	MICKEY MOE	1394	\$80.00
		DANNY MOE		
9	431, TWIN VALLEY	JODY BUENG	1394	\$80.00
		LYNN CHRISTIANSON		
11	119, BYRON	JASON WILKER	1388	\$80.00
		CHRIS HOUGH		
12	428, WAITE PARK	DAVID STEFFES	1385	\$70.00
		RICHARD STEFFES		
12	85, NORTH BRANCH	GLENN PIERCE	1385	\$70.00
		BILLY ROBISON		
14	433, GAYLORD	KEN SEEMAN	1378	\$70.00
		MYRON NELSON		
15	260, MONTICELLO	BRUCE THIBODEAU	1375	\$70.00
		KEVIN NEU		
16	418, HAMLIN	BOB BROBERG	1371	\$70.00
		BRAD RARDIN		
17	77, OWATONNA	DON CONNER	1369	\$60.00
		RON BURR		
18	328, ST. JOSEPH	DAVID COURT	1368	\$60.00
		ARNIE COURT		
18	71, WEST DULUTH	JIM CHRISTENSON	1368	\$60.00
		RON LALIBERTE		
20	164, STEWARTVILLE	ROGER PETERSON	1363	\$60.00
		LANCE PETERSON		
21	290, CAMBRIDGE	STEVE HAWKINS	1361	\$60.00
		JASON HAWKINS		
22	172, OSSEO-M. GROVE	MATT GANGSTEE	1360	\$60.00
		SCOTT GIESEMAN		
23	428,			



The Auxiliary Bulletin

No. 16-10

June 2016

President Sandy Fredrickson

Secretary Sandie Deutsch

Department Headquarters, Veterans Service Building, St. Paul, MN 55155 651-224-7634

The President's Column

By
Sandy
Fredrickson



By the time you read this many District Conventions will be over with and a few more to go. Plans are being made for Department Convention in Rochester. Hope to see many of you there. Come see the awesome job you have done with our programs this year.

Hopefully we are continuing our mission of renewing members, one at a time.

It will be interesting to see who ends up receiving the PUFL (paid up for life) for membership! Will it be you??

At this time I need to say "thank you" to all of you—every member—that has carried through the mission of our organization.

You have "in the spirit of Service Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security."

It has been with great pride and honor to have served with you, worked alongside of you and experienced a "culture of good will" with all of you. Thank you to every unit that invited me to attend their meetings. The pot lucks, special dinners, corsages, gifts were awesome. We have many, many great cooks out there.

It is my hope you are making plans to promote the Auxiliary in summer parades, especially the 4th of July. Keep in mind there are many communities who do not know what we do and why we do it.

Reminder—our work is not yet done. Yes, we are making plans for this year to end and new plans for the next year to begin. We must realize our organization is built on membership. Even if your Unit doesn't reach goal, have you succeeded to reach your last year's number?

One personal note—"thank you" from the bottom of our hearts for the prayers and monetary donations our son Scott has received. He had a beautiful benefit. His goal is to one day walk on his own, without the braces and to stand on crutches. He has progressed a lot since he left the hospital. We ask you to continue to keep him in your prayers. Again, thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

God bless each of you. May he bless those who need his uplifting hand and strength for wellness, healing, and those who have lost a loved one. Please keep our Girl Staters and Boys Staters in your prayers as they come together for one week of learning government.

Until next month,
"Serving those who Served."

Girls State begins June 12 at Bethel University in St. Paul

The 70th session of American Legion Auxiliary Minnesota Girls State will convene on Sunday, June 12th, at the Bethel University St. Paul. Some 380 young women will participate by learning about Minnesota government by actually running a government.

The Counselors and Staff are looking forward to returning to Bethel this year.

Thank you to all the Units for making this program possible for those young women who will be attending. We are all looking forward to an exciting week. The Committee has worked very hard making very positive changes to the program. Make sure and stay in touch with the citizens you have sponsored so you can report next year in your Annual Reports.

Everyone get your heads together and come up with some great entries. Any/all members may enter either/both of the contests. There is no limit as to the number of entries from a Unit. Enjoy. Have fun. Be creative. The Junior Conference had a very large amount of entries for all of their contests that were fabulous. Let's see what the Seniors can do. All entries must be at the Department Convention by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 21. Tables will be set up in the Display Area for your entries. Winners will be announced during the Poppy report on Friday at the Convention. We are looking forward to seeing many, many beautiful entries.

2016 POPPY NEWS

The totals to date for 2016 are as follows: the Department office has shipped out 326,450 small poppies and 9,168 large poppies. Thanks to all Units for supporting this project. The wonderful news is that out of 440 active units 389 ordered poppies this year.

2017 DUES NOTICES

We have been advised by our National organization the first dues notices for the 2017 membership dues will be sent out no later than September 15. All Senior members will receive this first notice. If National Headquarters has an email on file for you, the first notice will be sent via email only. Please share this information in your Unit via your Unit newsletter or at your next meeting. Remember that members can pay their Unit dues before that time, they do NOT have to wait for the notice from National.

2017 MEMBERSHIP

Though we are still in search of our members who have not yet renewed for the current year thoughts are already turning to the 2017 membership year. We are handling membership differently this year for two reasons, the first being that you will get your membership packets earlier this year and the second is to save on costs for the Department. All Unit Membership packets will be available at the Department Convention in Rochester. Pick them up in the Auxiliary Office. If your packet isn't picked up there, they will be given to the District Membership Chairman at August workshop on August 13. It will be up to those Chairmen to get the packets to your Unit. Please remember that all members can still pay their 2016 dues to retain their years of service. Let's make another big push to get those renewals turned in.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Cincinnati, Ohio is the site for our annual American Legion Auxiliary National Convention, August 26 - September 1. Delegates and alternates to the Convention are elected at each District Convention. Your District's representation is based on your District's total membership. If you are elected a delegate or alternate, you will receive a

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Has your Unit elected its delegates and alternates to the 2016 Department Convention? The Convention will be held July 21 - 23 at the Kahler Grand Hotel hosted by the Rochester American Legion Family #92. Information on housing and registration is found in this issue of the Minnesota Legionnaire.

Only 2 delegate and 2 alternate cards were sent to each Unit in the May Unit mailing. If your Unit needs additional delegate and alternate cards for the Department Convention, please contact the department office. Please note: The Department does not have the delegate/alternate cards for district conventions. These must be obtained from your district.

District caucuses will start at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 21, with the Convention being called to order at 9:00 a.m. All Auxiliary functions will be held in the Heritage Ballroom on the Lower Level of the Kahler Grand. Following is an abbreviated schedule of events for this year's Convention. A more complete schedule will be in the next issue of the Legionnaire.

Wednesday July 20- Executive Committee Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 21- Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. - District Caucuses Meet at 8:00 a.m. - Convention begins at 9:00 a.m. - Memorial Service at 11:15 a.m.

Friday, July 22 - Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. - Convention Call to Order at 9:00 a.m. - Entertainment by Veterans - 4:30 p.m. - Parade at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 23 - Registration opens at 7:00 a.m. - Convention Call to Order at 9:00 a.m. - Announcement of Election Results at 10:00 a.m. along with installation of new Officers.

POPPY CONTESTS

Department Poppy Chairman Donna Redepenning is holding two Poppy contests at the Department Convention. They are: 1) Wearable Poppy Art 2) Dress a Doll or Teddy Bear. Please read the Trophy and Awards booklet for rules. There will be a People's Choice Award, votes by donation with all proceeds going to the President's Project Fund.

May 12, 2016, Auxiliary Membership

District	Goal	Membership To Date	Percent of Goal	Membership Last Year
One	6,146	4,771	77.63%	5,016
Two	5,979	4,694	78.51%	4,865
Three	5,323	4,201	78.92%	4,369
Four	920	681	74.02%	740
Five	1,047	780	74.50%	856
Six	7,318	5,802	79.28%	5,987
Seven	4,859	3,779	77.77%	3,946
Eight	2,005	1,523	75.96%	1,640
Nine	5,232	4,150	79.32%	4,271
Ten	6,382	4,938	77.37%	5,205
1982	198	153	77.27%	129
Totals	45,409	35,472	78.12%	37,024



WOOD LAKE COUPLE HONORED -- Harold and Lila Jeseritz were honored by Wood Lake Post and Unit with quilts made by their daughter-in-law Dorothy Jeseritz. They have been commander and president of their post and unit and held many other offices. They have been married for 68 years.

Auxiliary Bulletin

Continued from Preceding Page

convention mailing from the Department the latter part of June, giving you all the particulars.

If you are elected a delegate or alternate and find you are not able to attend, please notify the department office immediately.

2016-2017 OFFICERS' LIST

We are in need of the Unit officers' list for 2016-2017 from every Unit. Each Unit was sent two (2) copies of the list in the May mailing. Please return one copy to the department office; the duplicate copy is for your District President-Elect. All lists should be in no later than June 15th. So far I have received 195 out of 440 Officer's lists. The form is posted on our website - you can fill it out and email it to the Department Office immediately.

Please be certain to check all addresses before sending in your list. The Department mailing list is compiled from what you send in for your Unit. Also, if you prefer items via email, please make sure and fill out the email address area.

The 2017 membership cards and supplies will be available in the Department Office at the Kahler Grand during Convention, provided we have received your officers' list. This year we will not be mailing membership packets. Please stop by the office to get your membership information so you can get a jump on collecting dues.

When you receive your membership packets, please read the "Minnesota Guide to Membership" that will be included. The guide will explain the correct procedure for handling your Unit's 2017 membership.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP ENTRIES

Department Education Chairman Jean Horack has announced the following Department winners were entered into Divisional competition for National scholarships. If selected the Northwestern Division winner for the National President's Scholarship, the Spirit of Youth for Junior Members Scholarship or the Non-Traditional Students Scholarship, they will receive a National scholarship. If not a National winner, they will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship from the Department.

Children of Warriors, National President's Scholarship - Abigail Meger of Belle Plaine. Abigail is competing with six other Departments in the NW Division for a \$3,500.00, \$3,000.00 or \$2,000.00 scholarship. Spirit of Youth for Junior Members Scholarship - Sophie Engels, a member of the Ivanhoe Unit 199. She is competing with six other Departments in the NW Division for a scholarship of \$5,000.00

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship - Amanda Pflipsen, member of Waite Park Unit 428, is competing with six other Departments in the NW Division for a \$2,000.00 scholarship.

We have been informed that Amanda Pflipsen was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship by National Education Chairman Sue Britton - our congratulations go out to you Amanda.

PAST PRESIDENTS SCHOLARSHIP

Through the Department's Past Presidents Parley program up to ten \$1,000 scholarships can be awarded each year to members of the Auxiliary here in Minnesota. Shirley Frederick, Department Past Presidents Parley Chairman is pleased to announce that seven scholarships were awarded this year. The recipients are: Samantha Winter of Henderson, Celia Gerbracht of Bagley, Tia Standinger of Plainview, Brittany Richters of Luverne, Bailey Scanlan of Houston, Rachel Allen of Dexter, and Andrea Schouweiler of Plainview.

Congratulations to each of you as you pursue a career in a health care field.

DEPT. SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Jean Horack, Education Chairman, has awarded eight scholarships for the Department of Minnesota Scholarship program. Each scholarship is in the amount of \$1,000.00. The following is a list of the recipients: Hannah Hjelle of Willmar, Tia Standinger of Plainview, Nicole Anderson of Moorhead, Celia Gerbracht of Bagley, Martina Golden of Cambridge, Brooklyn Manzey of Pipestone, Kendra Kaupa of Madelia and Shawna Youngberg of Marcell. There were 120 applicants for the Department Scholarship. Congratulations to all winners and we wish you the best in your educational futures.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Margee Keller, Department Legislative Chairman from Crookston Unit 20, received the following notice from Lisa Williamson, National Legislative Chairman:

Welcome to the Legislative Mini-Council for the American Legion Auxiliary. Your nomination to service on the council for Rep. Walz has been received and processed for the 114th Congress.

Thank you for joining this important team of legislative advocates. As a member of the Mini-Council, you have a



MARGEE KELLER
Appointed to Legislative Mini-Council

heightened responsibility to actively support the legislative initiatives and priorities of The American Legion. To do this, I've insured you're on the list to receive the Legion's Action Alert emails and legislative update eNews about what is happening in Washington, D.C. You will play a critical role when a legislative "Action Alert" has been initiated by The American Legion, as you will use your connections to reach out to elected official(s) that you have established a relationship and rapport with for the purpose of encouraging support for The American Legion's position, and thus The American Legion Family's position. The strength and voice of the American Legion Auxiliary helps assure those who represent us in Washington prioritize the needs of our veterans, service members and their families first and foremost when casting their vote. Your activism and commitment to reaching out when an alert has been launched is appreciated and valued.

We all congratulate Margee on the hard work and dedication she puts forth in supporting our veterans.

SECRETARY SANDIE'S CORNER

Here we are, summer is upon us and time is just flying by here at the Department Office. We continue to try our best to answer all of your questions and concerns, so keep the calls coming. Again, any time you want to visit, stop up and see us.

I decided, after finally realizing my husband isn't going to kill me on the motorcycle, I bought him a birthday present so we will be wheeling in first class on our bike trip to North Carolina this June. I think the boy is still in shock. I am taking a short trip to Texas next month as my son and his wife bought a new house in Arlington - gotta check out the digs and make sure there is room for mama in her old age. I will also get to see my two babies who are growing so, it just slays me.

Please attend Department Convention if at all possible. President Sandy has done a fabulous job this past year. You can meet many new people and have a lot of fun as well. You need to see what this organization you belong to actually does.

I ask you all to say prayers to my dear friend Sue and her family, whose son was severely burned this past weekend and will be at HCMC's burn unit for a long time recovering.

Until next month - enjoy every day you have to the fullest.

Attention Veterans!
This is your northern Minnesota resort. Barrier-free and open 12 months a year. Gateway to the BWCA.
800-777-7538
email: vetlake@frontiernet.net
www.veteransonthelakeresort.org
All cabins have a lake view.

VETERANS on the LAKE RESORT
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- Roundtrip Delta flights from Minneapolis to Fort Lauderdale
- Roundtrip transfers from airport to hotel and pier
- Overnight Miami Airport Hilton with breakfast
- A 7-night cruise on the *Adonia*
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- Luggage handling for one suitcase per person

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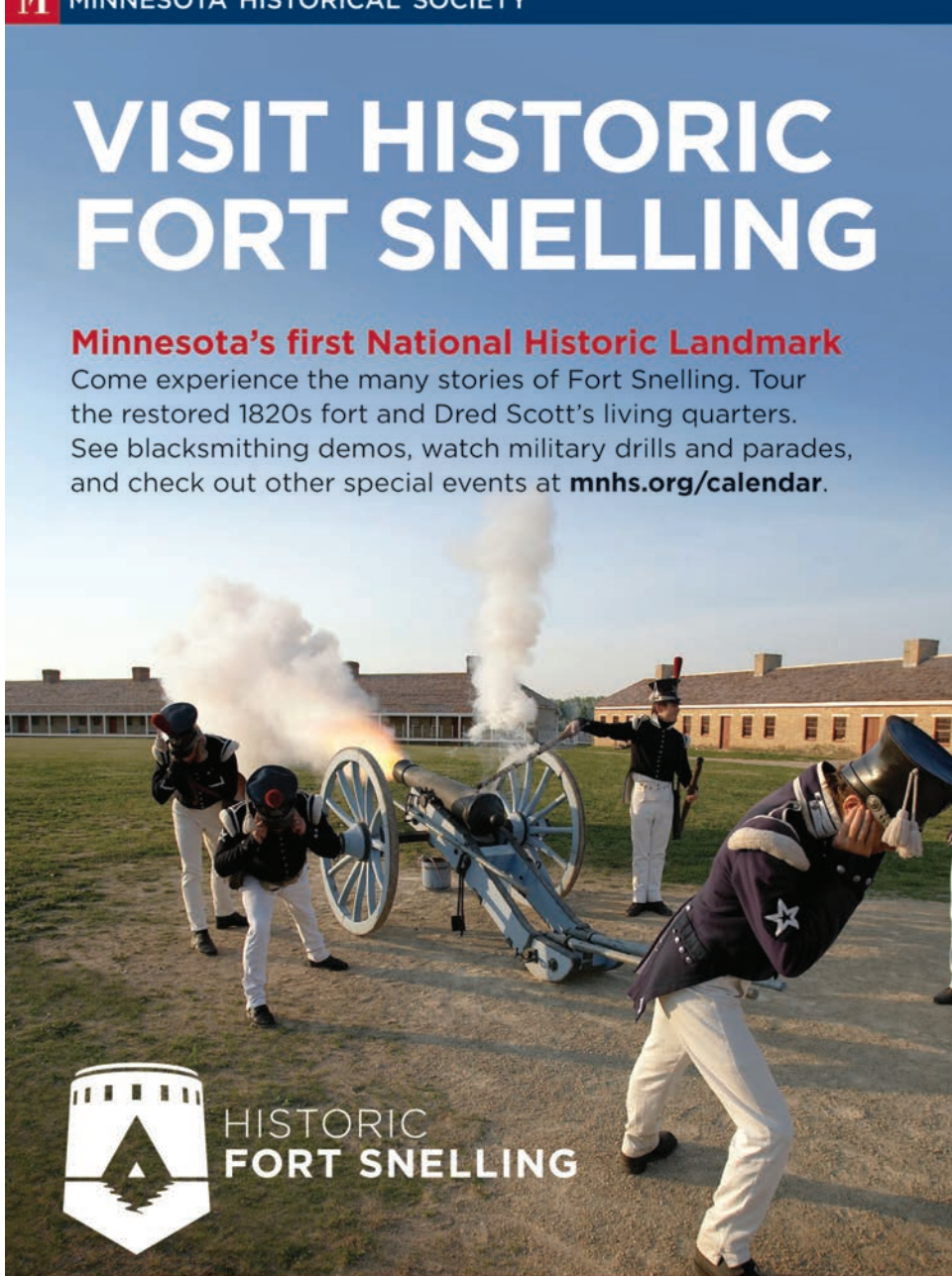


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