



FIRST DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MN

APRIL 2025

Legion Contacts

Commander

Mark Maloney
845 54th Ave Apt E
Winona, MN 55987—1584
507-513-1582
markmaloney1962@gmail.com

Adjutant

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

Membership

Mary Hanson
1701 4th AVE SW
Austin, MN 55912
507—440—3606
mfhanson52@charter.net

Chaplain

Richard Skillestad
219 6th St SW Eyota, MN 55934
507-545-2885 or 507-250-5329
richardh33@embarqmail.com

VICE—COMMANDER INFORMATION

Area One - Robert Schmidt
1104 West Center St
Lake City, MN 55041
651—448—3687
msgbob79@gmail.com

Area Two - Chuck Stone
1625 Crestview LN
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-213-7517
castoney@hotmail.com

Area Three -
Open

Area Four - Cole Wilcox
807 North Everett St
LeRoy, MN 55951
507—481—7822
colewilcox86@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

April 9, 2025—Vets Day on the Hill. Please try to attend.

April 15, 2025—Tax Day

April 20, 2025—Easter – Remember the reason for the remembrance.

May 3, 2025 - The SAL and Legion Riders Conventions. See the calls to convention in this newsletter.

May 17, 2025 - the legion & auxiliary conventions. See call to conventions in this newsletter

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MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

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



2025 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, Mark Maloney, do hereby call a convention of the First District to convene at Lake City, Minnesota on Saturday May 17, 2025.

The business sessions of the convention will be held in Wild Wings Plaza located at Hwy 61 South, Lake City, MN, commencing at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 17, 2025, 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, PO Box 135, LeRoy, MN 55951 before May 5th.

All Members are encouraged to attend.

First District Commander
Mark Maloney

Delegate Certification to the First District Convention in Lake City, Minnesota, May 17, 2025, please send it 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 # _____

FIRST DISTRICT AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION

May 17, 2025

American Legion Post 110, Lake City, MN

The First District American Legion Convention will be held in Wild Wings Plaza, 2101 South Hwy 61, Lake City, MN Please fill out this form and before **April 30, 2025**, mail to:

**American Legion Post 110
Convention Registration
PO Box 23
Lake City, MN 55041**

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

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

_____ Saturday lunch \$10:00 (Lunch consists of : (Soup and Sandwich)

Total Amount _____

Make the checks out to **"American Legion Post 110"** and send to the address above.

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

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

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

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

If you are a dual or triple member, you only need to register for one organization. This form will get you registered for the SAL or Riders Convention on Saturday, May 3, 2025

PLEASE BRING A CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CARD – They will be checked at the registration table.

(ONLY PREREGISTERED MEMBERS WILL GET A CONVENTION BOOK)

(If you are a single, dual or triple member, please check the appropriate boxes below)

Legion _____ **Post #** _____ **Auxiliary** _____ **Unit #** _____ **SAL** _____ **ALR Chapter** _____

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

_____ cut off _____

Hotel information for the First District Convention in Lake City, MN

The post has blocked twelve (12) rooms for Friday night May 16, 2025, at the following:

**AmericINN
1615 N Lakeshore Drive
Lake City, MN 55041
651-345-5611**

Rooms are \$109.90 plus tax per night

You will need to call the motel and make your reservation. They are blocked under the American Legion.

ENDORSEMNTS FOR OFFICERS

Brian Medinnus -----Commander

Andru Peters -----Vice Commander



REQUESTS FOR NATIONAL DELEGATE

1. Chuck Kruger
2. Mary Hanson
3. Sy Fix
4. Myron Ehrich



The North Star Honor Flight is now taking applications for veterans and guardians. We are also looking for donations to make this happen! Please visit www.northstarhonorflight.org. Contact information is on the web site as well as the printable applications. Donations can be made by mail or on-line. Gambling funds and poppy funds can be used

From the Hopeful Next 1st District Legion Commander.....

I am still looking to fill the following positions:

Vice Commanders -Areas 2,3 and 4.

Sgt at Arms

Chairmen:

National Security/Foreign Relations

Girls Fast Pitch Softball

There may be one or two others I have missed

Please contact me or Jr if any of these positions interest you....

FROM YOUR RESOLUTION CHAIRMAN

If there are any resolutions to come before the First District Convention on May 17, 2025, they must be in the hands of the First District Resolution Chairman hands thirty (30) days prior to the convention. Which means he has to have them on or before April 17th in order to be acted on.

Send the to Jim Kellogg at:

17353 710th Ave, Taopi, MN 55977

Or email them to

jamesck@gmail.com



FROM YOUR COMMANDER'S DESK

The success of the 1st district's membership program is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and collaborative spirit of the entire team. Each member has contributed uniquely to this achievement, demonstrating the power of unified efforts towards a common goal.

Open and effective communication has been the cornerstone of our success. By ensuring that everyone is on the same page, the team has been able to coordinate efforts seamlessly, address challenges promptly, and celebrate milestones together.

The team's diverse skill sets, and expertise have played a crucial role in driving the membership program forward. From strategic planning and marketing to member engagement and support, each team member has brought invaluable insights and professional acumen to the table. Innovation has been at the heart of our membership growth. The team's ability to think creatively and implement novel strategies has attracted new members and retained existing ones, ensuring sustained success for the 1st district.

The unwavering commitment to excellence has set the 1st district apart. Members have consistently gone beyond to deliver exceptional service and value to our members, fostering a sense of community and loyalty.

To every member, thank you for your dedication and hard work. Your contributions have been instrumental in achieving our membership goals and creating a thriving community. It is your passion, perseverance, and collaborative spirit that have made this success possible.

As we continue to grow and evolve, we remain confident that the team's collective efforts will lead to even greater achievements. Together, we will continue to build on this solid foundation and strive for excellence in all our endeavors.

The success of the 1st district's membership program is a shining example of what can be achieved when a team works together with dedication and a shared vision. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. Your hard work and commitment are deeply appreciated, and we look forward to reaching new heights together.

Thank you

1st District Commander
Mark A Maloney III

Easter Message from A Chaplain

Dear friends,

As we gather to celebrate the joyous occasion of Easter, I am reminded of the profound message of hope, renewal, and love that this season brings. Easter is a time to reflect on the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness and life over death.

In these challenging times, may the promise of Easter fill your hearts with peace and encourage you to embrace the spirit of compassion and grace. Let us rejoice in the new beginnings that this season offers and extend kindness to those around us.

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful Easter.



The Month of the Military Child is a time to honor and celebrate the remarkable strength, courage, and resilience of military children. These young individuals make significant sacrifices and contributions to the Armed Forces community. By recognizing their unique experiences and providing support, we can help ensure that military children thrive and flourish despite the challenges they face. As we wear purple and participate in events throughout April, let us remember the vital role these children play in the fabric of our nation's military and express our gratitude for their unwavering spirit.



Come join us at Veterans Day on the Hill!

Veterans Day on the Hill 2025 is April 9. It is an event held by the members of the eight congressionally chartered veteran service organizations that make up the Minnesota Commanders' Task Force. We want to tell our lawmakers to cut taxes on charitable gambling, to increase the property tax breaks for disabled veterans and to exempt post homes from property taxes, like in other states. Go to the Legionnaire Digital Briefing page, click the button to download the flier, the transportation request form and the complete packet.

ALL SUPPORTERS OF VETERANS ARE WELCOME!
See flyer in the flyer section of this newsletter

18th annual Military Ball set for April 26

By Jan Lee Buxengard

The 18th annual Military Ball is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2025 at the Fest Building in Spring Grove. This event honors all military personnel who have served our country – past and current – and from every aspect of the military, as well as their spouses and families. It is also open to those who support the military or anyone who wishes to attend. In past years attendees have come from a wide range of the tri state area - and several have come from farther away.

The Military Ball includes dinner, ceremony, entertainment, photo portraits, and more.

Attire for the ball is Sunday best, semi-formal or formal, with many wearing their military uniform or the uniform of a veteran's organization. Organizers request no casual street clothes.

Cost for the evening is \$30 per person. Attendance is by RSVP only.

Cocktails and photos begin at 4:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:45p.m. The dinner plate includes roast beef and chicken.

Guest speaker will be Ret. Colonel Jennifer J. Fuller. Following the program, a variety of music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided from 8 to 10:30 p.m. by Cheers Big Band from the La Crosse area.

This event is planned and carried out by a committee of volunteers from American Legion Posts in the local area, including: Randy Denstad, Arlyn Pohlman and Lucille Lemke of the Caledonia Post; John Geiwitz of the Houston

Post; Gary and Jan Lee Buxengard, Fordyce and Marge Brevig, Nancy Dahl and Kathy Schiessler of the Spring Grove Post.

Invitations will be mailed in mid-March. Please let us know if you did not receive an invitation last year, or if you've had a change of address. We encourage and welcome new comers. For more information, contact Gary Buxengard at 507-498-3461 or janleebuxengard@gmail.com.

We look forward to another memorable, and successful, Military Ball. The planning committee expresses appreciation and gratitude to everyone who has helped in any way to make the ball the special annual event that it has been for nearly two decades.

SEE THE FLYER ON THE NEXT PAGE

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

**TO THE 18TH ANNUAL
MILITARY BALL**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

AT THE SPRING GROVE FEST BUILDING

110 NORTH DIVISION, SPRING GROVE, MN

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

COCKTAILS & PHOTOS 4:30 P.M.

(ONE PHOTO INCLUDED)

DINNER: 5:45 P.M.

PLATE INCLUDES ROAST BEEF & CHICKEN

DANCING: 8:00 PM-10:30 P.M.

\$30/PER PERSON

PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 12



FEEL FREE TO COPY AND SHARE THIS INVITATION
DIRECT QUESTIONS TO:
GARY OR JAN LEE BUXENGARD AT 507-498-3461
OR JANLEEBUXENGARD@GMAIL.COM

Cut along dotted line

18TH ANNUAL MILITARY BALL ATTENDEES

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

NUMBER IN YOUR PARTY _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

PLEASE LIST NAME OF OTHER GUESTS ON BACK OF THIS PORTION.

IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS PLEASE EXPLAIN ON BACK

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: MILITARY BALL

MAIL TO: MILITARY BALL

21465 SOUTHVUEW ROAD
SPRING GROVE, MN 55974

IMPORTANT INFO

The district needs your help. We need younger members to step up and accept an officer position before all the experience to help mentor them is gone.. Call Jim Kellogg for more information at 507-438-1123

FROM YOUR CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN

Please fill out the Children and Youth form which was mailed to your post. (if you haven't seen it ask your post adjutant, he should of received it in the mail).

The reports need to be sent by to The District Chairman, Myron Ehrich at 220 Irvin St, West Concord, MN 55985 on or before March 31, 2025

Lets make an effort to get our district at 100 percent reporting.

FROM AREA FOUR

Greetings Area 4,

Let's continue to get those memberships in!

If anyone is interested in becoming the new Area 4 Vice Commander for the 1st District, please let me know.

If you have any questions I will answer them to the best of my ability.

Cole Wilcox

Area 4 Vice Commander

FROM AREA ONE

Question—Do you know what it means if a service dog approaches you without it's handler?

Answer—It means the handler has fallen or is in trouble and needs help, follow the dog

FROM YOUR BLOOD CHAIRMAN

Please fill out your post blood report and send them to the District Blood Chairman, Myron Ehrich at 220 Irvin St, West Concord, MN 55985 on or before April 15, 2025.

Remember, wherever you donate blood, keep a record of it because it is your blood and you are a member of your post so the post can get credit for the units.

Lets try and get 100 percent reporting for the First District

FROM YOUR ADJUTANTS PEN

Just a reminder that according to the job descriptions for the District Committee Chairman, they are required to give a report on their committee activities for the year at the District Convention in May and give a copy to the District Adjutant .

If you are not attending the convention, send a copy to the District Adjutant and it will be read during session.

First District Adjutant - Wayne Hammon

The American Legion, Dept of MN, First District 2025 Membership Report for March 26, 2025

Post	Location	New 2025	PUFL 2025	Online 2025	Trad 2025	Paid 2025	HQ Trans 2025	Total Membr 2025	Goal 2025	% of Goal	HQ Trans 2025	Last yr at this date
9	Winona	5	31	0	383	419	28	447	451	99.11%	0	0
90	Lewiston	3	10	0	64	77	2	79	81	97.53%	0	0
190	St Charles	0	13	0	70	83	0	83	99	83.84%	0	0
	Winona County	8	54	0	517	579	30	609	631	96.51%	0	0
50	Wabasha	1	40	0	132	173	4	177	202	87.62%	0	0
110	Lake City	28	15	0	122	165	2	167	158	105.70%	0	0
179	Plainview	8	24	0	99	131	1	132	142	92.96%	0	0
546	Kellogg	0	6	0	43	49	0	49	55	89.09%	0	0
573	Elgin	0	3	0	20	23	1	24	27	88.89%	0	0
579	Millville	1	18	0	81	100	0	100	108	92.59%	0	0
588	Mazeppa	3	9	0	49	61	0	61	64	95.31%	0	0
	Wabsha County	41	115	0	546	702	8	710	756	93.92%	0	0
92	Rochester	12	86	0	503	601	58	659	651	101.23%	0	0
119	Byron	10	17	0	90	117	1	118	106	111.32%	0	0
164	Stewartville	5	20	0	224	249	1	250	277	90.25%	0	0
446	Rochester	0	2	0	3	5	0	5	15	33.33%	0	0
551	Eyota	2	24	0	132	158	0	158	179	88.27%	0	0
	Olmsted County	29	149	0	952	1130	60	1190	1228	96.91%	0	0
	Area One	78	318	0	2015	2411	98	2509	2615	95.95%	0	0
295	West Concord	0	6	0	26	32	0	32	39	82.05%	0	0
330	Hayfield	3	16	0	158	177	0	177	180	98.33%	0	0
333	Kasson	10	29	0	181	220	4	224	230	97.39%	0	0
384	Dodge Center	1	7	0	52	60	1	61	68	89.71%	0	0
422	Claremont	0	3	0	24	27	0	27	29	93.10%	0	0
	Dodge County	14	61	0	441	516	5	521	546	95.42%	0	0
52	Blooming Prairie	0	16	0	56	72	1	73	77	94.81%	0	0
77	Owatonna	4	50	0	253	307	18	325	343	94.75%	0	0
296	Ellendale	7	5	0	30	42	2	44	36	122.22%	0	0
	Steel County	11	71	0	339	421	21	442	456	96.93%	0	0
75	New Richland	0	8	0	29	37	0	37	46	80.43%	0	0
228	Waseca	5	20	0	213	238	3	241	261	92.34%	0	0
281	Janesville	0	3	0	59	62	2	64	76	84.21%	0	0
587	Waldorf	1	0	0	16	17	0	17	20	85.00%	0	0
	Waseca County	6	31	0	317	354	5	359	403	89.08%	0	0
	Area Two	31	163	0	1097	1291	31	1322	1405	94.09%	0	0

40	Lanesboro	2	12	0	81	95	0	95	105	90.48%	0	0
68	Spring Valley	0	7	0	47	54	3	57	61	93.44%	0	0
81	Harmony	0	0	0	17	17	0	17	23	73.91%	0	0
94	Rushford	4	9	0	82	95	1	96	97	98.97%	0	0
166	Preston	0	13	0	32	45	1	46	50	92.00%	0	0
197	Chatfield	2	1	0	28	31	2	33	36	91.67%	0	0
299	Mabel	4	27	0	97	128	1	129	134	96.27%	0	0
369	Wykoff	0	0	0	15	15	0	15	18	83.33%	0	0
400	Canton	0	0	0	19	19	0	19	24	79.17%	0	0
492	Fountain	0	0	0	8	8	0	8	10	80.00%	0	0
526	Peterson	0	4	0	26	30	0	30	30	100.00%	0	0
544	Ostrander	0	2	0	13	15	2	17	20	85.00%	0	0
637	Whalan	0	0	0	9	9	0	9	11	81.82%	0	0
	Fillmore County	12	75	0	474	561	10	571	619	92.25%	0	0
191	Caledonia	1	11	0	95	107	1	108	123	87.80%	0	0
249	Spring Grove	0	11	0	109	120	1	121	131	92.37%	0	0
423	Houston	0	9	0	81	90	1	91	97	93.81%	0	0
498	Hokah	0	1	0	18	19	0	19	20	95.00%	0	0
595	LaCrescent	1	40	0	148	189	3	192	219	87.67%	0	0
	Houston County	2	72	0	451	525	6	531	590	90.00%	0	0
	Area Three	14	147	0	925	1086	16	1102	1209	91.15%	0	0
56	Albert Lea	6	36	0	348	390	7	397	441	90.02%	0	0
264	Glenville	2	8	0	53	63	1	64	63	101.59%	0	0
266	Hartland	0	1	0	12	13	0	13	14	92.86%	0	0
317	Emmons	2	3	0	33	38	0	38	45	84.44%	0	0
404	Alden	0	3	0	61	64	0	64	75	85.33%	0	0
552	Freeborn	0	5	0	20	25	1	26	30	86.67%	0	0
	Freeborn County	10	56	0	527	593	9	602	668	90.12%	0	0
91	Austin	8	46	0	281	335	4	339	381	88.98%	0	0
105	Lyle	1	8	0	59	68	0	68	73	93.15%	0	0
140	Grand Meadow	0	4	0	25	29	0	29	34	85.29%	0	0
146	Adams	0	21	0	112	133	0	133	161	82.61%	0	0
161	LeRoy	0	4	0	35	39	0	39	47	82.98%	0	0
570	Austin Spam	1	0	0	10	11	0	11	12	91.67%	0	0
	Mower County	10	83	0	522	615	4	619	708	87.43%	0	0
	Area Four	20	139	0	1049	1208	13	1221	1376	88.74%	0	0
1111	Dakota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
	District Totals	143	767	0	5086	5996	158	6154	6605	93.17%	0	0

DISTRICT VICE COMMANDER STANDINGS

Vice Commanders												
Area One	78	318	0	2015	2411	98	2509	2615	95.95%	0	0	
Area Two	31	163	0	1097	1291	31	1322	1405	94.09%	0	0	
Area Three	14	147	0	925	1086	16	1102	1209	91.15%	0	0	
Area Four	20	139	0	1049	1208	13	1221	1376	88.74%	0	0	

The American Legion Department of Minnesota 2025 District Membership Report

Dist	Rank												
1	1st	Mark Maloney	143	767	0	5086	5996	158	6154	6605	93.17%		
2	4th	James Olson	101	548	0	4162	4811	12	4823	5293	91.12%		
3	3rd	Joe Tappainer	221	1529	0	6972	8,722	76	8,798	9,636	91.30%		
4	7th	Jon Haworth	29	248	0	1191	1468	34	1502	1,690	88.88%		
5	10th	Lynn Nottage	19	248	0	955	1222	7	1229	1481	82.98%		
6	2nd	Frank Grittner	214	1049	0	7192	8455	155	8,610	9,409	91.51%		
7	5th	Carl Wilson	75	600	0	3740	4415	13	4428	4,937	89.69%		
8	9th	Philip Bodle	51	294	0	2311	2656	17	2673	3063	87.27%		
9	6th	Steve NaSalle	87	511	0	3935	4533	39	4572	5114	89.40%		
10	8th	Kristy Janigo	149	882	0	5389	6420	75	6495	7327	88.64%		
99			14	206	0	1447	1667	0	1667	2752	60.57%		
Totals			1103	6882	0	42,380	50,365	586	50,951	57,307	88.91%		

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Legionnaires,

The 1st District is still in 1st place in the membership challenge with the 6th and 3rd coming for us. We are currently at 93.17% and we need renewals processed as soon as possible. The next target is 4-9-2025 at 95%. We need to get 1.83% processed in just a few days. Please get out your rosters and call.

It is getting to be that time of year again. You have a new member and don't know if you should wait for the new packets and 2026 to open up or put them in 2025. You need to remember that 2025 is not over until December 31st, 2025. If you wait until 2026 to process the membership, that person can attend meetings but is not able to vote or hold office until next year. If you want to save them money, maybe the post can offer to pay part of the 2025 dues. The goal is to get them in and keep them.

I can't stress enough; the year 2025 is not over until December 31st. When you get your packets in June, do not give up on getting to 100% in your post. We have seen a significant number of posts at a 100% drop in the past few years. So far we have 6 posts at goal or over. Don't you know what your goal is? Look at the report in this newsletter. We can't keep losing members like we do every year.

Also, anytime you have a change in your commander, adjutant or membership director, make sure you submit a new officer reporting form to Department with a copy to the district. This is the only way we can get hold of you. Make sure you put the correct legion year at the top of the page. This is especially important with post elections coming up. This will be a requirement to get your post packet for 2026.

Thank you for all you do for the American Legion

Mary Hanson

1st District Membership Director

mfhanson52@charter.net

507-440-3606



Auxiliary Contacts

President

Michelle Weaver
1305 Willow St Apt 39
La Crescent, MN 55947
608-304-8773
weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

Secretary

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

Membership

Rosalie Trom
107 1st Ave NW—Kasson 55940
507-951-8442
rosalie7g@gmail.com

Treasurer

Tonia Betterman
1625 Crestview Lane
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-456-2315
betttm88@outlook.com

April is here, and we hope that spring is just around the corner! As we approach the end of the year, we have several important updates and reminders to share:

Annual Reports Annual reports, covering the period of April 1st, 2024 – March 31st, 2025, are due to the District Chairman by **April 15th**. Chairmen are eager to learn about everything your Units have accomplished. Reports that meet the requirements outlined in the District Standing Rules may be eligible for District certificates. These reports will also contribute to engaging discussions at the District Convention on **May 17th**.

If you or someone from your Unit will be attending the convention, please ensure a report is sent with them to present. Alternatively, reports can be emailed directly to me.

April 15th: A Date to Remember April 15th marks several key deadlines and observances:

- **Purple Up Day:** Wear purple to support military children, as April is designated the Month of the Military Child. Celebrate and recognize the contributions of children and youth during this special month.

Minnesota Girls State Program: The reservation deadline has been extended to April 15th, so make sure to secure your spot!

Upcoming Events

- **May 3rd:** District SAL and Riders Conventions

May 17th: District American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary Conventions (*All events will be held in Lake City.*)

Exciting Opportunity—Door Prize Drawings! Don't miss out on the door prize drawings at the Conventions in May! Participation is simple: register for the convention and be present to win. Good luck! 🍀

Poppy Funds—By the Book Submitted by Eastern Division Chairman Carole Baldwin

Here's a quick guide to approved and prohibited uses of Poppy Funds:

Approved Uses:

- Rehabilitation of veterans or welfare support for their immediate families.
- Assistance for active military personnel and their families in cases of financial or medical need.

Poppy kits and supplies for creating symbolic poppies.

Prohibited Uses:

- General operating funds or community projects unrelated to veterans/military personnel.
- Scholarships that do not prioritize military families in financial need.

Memberships, travel expenses, or event registrations for individuals.

Refer to the guidelines for additional details and ensure proper usage of Poppy Funds.

Thank you, as always, for your unwavering dedication to serving our Veterans. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me or any District officer or chairman.

Michelle Weaver

1st District Auxiliary President

weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

507-850-2407-Cell

507-551-2023-Home

Auxiliary Call to Convention 2025

The annual First District of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota is hereby called. It is to be held in Lake City, Minnesota on Saturday May 17, 2025. The Auxiliary session will be held at the Wild Wings Plaza located at Hwy 61 South, Lake City, Minnesota.

The opening session will be called on, May 17, 2025, at 9:30 am.

The purpose of the convention is to:

Elect District Officers for the 2025 – 2026 year

Receive reports of Unit Presidents

Receive reports of District Chairman's

Elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention

Conduct such other business as may be brought before the Convention in conformity with the provisions of the Department and National Constitutions.

District Chairmen

All District Chairmen must file/type a report for the District Book of Annual Reports, which will be distributed at the Convention. Reports should include information from the Unit annual reports forwarded to each respective Chairman by the Department office shortly after April 15 and any pertinent information regarding District projects or activities in your program area. Reports should be forwarded to the First District President **No later than April 15, 2025**. If possible, reports should be typewritten and ready to print.

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

Unit Color Bearers

Units are encouraged to bring their flags to the Convention to be presented as part of the opening ceremonies, posted during the Auxiliary sessions, and retired at the close of the convention. Auxiliary members who are carrying in their flags at the District Convention are asked to meet at the session meeting room at 8:00 am on Saturday, May 17, 2025, 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 their Unit Colors will be present. Please be at the session meeting room at 8:00 am to rehearse.

All Unit Presidents are expected to prepare a two-minute report about unit activities throughout this past year.

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

County Council Presidents

County Council Presidents are expected to be prepared to report on their county's activities, what their county does to keep their council active, and ideas that may help other counties start a council.



Submission of Annual Reports and Unit Information

Dear Unit Chairman,

In the beginning of February, I sent out the annual report forms along with the list of District Chairman. If there is no chairman listed for a particular program, please send the report to me.

The Annual Reports should encompass all activities conducted by your Unit from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025. These reports should be submitted to your District Chairman on or before April 15, 2025. Additionally, Impact Reports should cover the period from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025, and should be submitted to the Unit President for calculation and subsequent submission to the District President.

There are a few reports we aim to achieve 100% participation from all Units, particularly in Americanism and Community Service. I know you are all active in your communities and consistently pledge allegiance to the flag at your meetings. The Risk and Compliance reports are also essential, as they are crucial for the proper functioning of the Unit.

The District Chairman will present their reports at our Convention on May 17, 2025, in Lake City. If you or a member of your Unit will attend the Convention, please prepare a short 2-minute report to be presented at the District Convention. These reports can also be emailed to me by May 1, 2025.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out. Your reports can be mailed or emailed, whichever works best for you.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Michelle Weaver

1st District Auxiliary President

weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

507-850-2407

Step Up and Lead: Your Involvement Makes a Difference

Dear Members,

As we continue our journey of service and commitment to our veterans, military, and their families, we recognize the vital role that active participation plays in sustaining and enhancing our mission. Your involvement and fresh ideas are essential for the ongoing success of the 1st District American Legion Auxiliary Department of Minnesota. We invite you to step into leadership roles and chairmanships to help shape the future of our organization.

Benefits include gaining valuable skills in communication, project management, and problem-solving. You'll have the chance to make a tangible impact on the lives of veterans and their families. You also connect with fellow members, which can lead to meaningful relationships. Fresh ideas and new perspectives are essential for growth and progress. By getting involved you can introduce innovative approaches and initiatives that can propel our District forward.

Active participation ensures that our programs and initiatives continue to run smoothly. Every member's contribution, no matter how big or small, plays a part in achieving our goals. Participation brings new ideas and perspectives that can help us adapt and grow. When members actively participate, it fosters a sense of belonging. Together, we create a supportive environment where everyone feels valued and motivated. Active engagement in our programs strengthens our mission and amplifies our impact. The more we come together, the greater the difference we can make in the lives of those we serve.

I encourage you to explore the various opportunities within the American Legion Auxiliary. Whether it's a chairmanship, being on a committee, or taking on a leadership position, there are numerous ways to contribute your talents and make a difference.

If you are interested in stepping into a leadership role, please submit an endorsement letter for your nomination. This letter should highlight your qualifications and experiences and will be read at the District Convention on May 17, 2025, before voting. Please plan on attending the convention if you are submitting a letter.

If you are interested in a chairmanship or any other open position for the 2025-2026 year, please let me know, and I will pass your name on to the new District President. Better yet, attend the convention and let her know in person.

Please send your endorsement letter to me by May 1, 2025. If you have any questions or need more information about the positions, feel free to reach out. I am happy to provide any information you need.

Our District is kept vibrant and forward-moving through the active participation and fresh ideas of its members. By stepping into a leadership role or a chairmanship, you are not only contributing to the success of the American Legion Auxiliary but also ensuring that our mission continues to thrive for years to come.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment. I look forward to your nominations and seeing the positive impact of your leadership.

Warm regards,

Michelle Weaver

1st District Auxiliary President

weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

507-850-2407

ALA MN Girls State All Stars

Thank you for becoming an ALA MN Girls State All Star.
Our program is successful because of people like you who know the
impact this program makes in the lives of young women.

If you wish to become a donor to the 2025 session of ALA MN Girls State,
please complete the form below and mail with a check made out to
ALA Dept of Minnesota.

Name/Unit _____

Contact email _____

White Star Donor \$1-\$49 _____

Red Star Donor \$50 - \$99. _____

Blue Star Donor \$100 - \$249 _____

Gold Star Donor \$250+ _____

All ALA MN Girls State All Stars will be recognized on the ALA MN Girls State Facebook page
and in our citizen handbook.

Please consider making a personal donation, a unit donation, a post, squadron or chapter
donation or a corporate donation to the American Legion Auxilliary Minnesota Girls State
Program. Your donation is appreciated and will be used to aid in the mission of our program to
educate young women.

Please mail donations to: American Legion Auxilliary
Department of Minnesota
20 W 12th St Room 314
St Paul, MN 55155

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Bulletin #24 as of 3/11/2025

2025 Membership

Member-opoly

"Finding Members in Everyday Places"

Your Leader is Rich Aunty Pennybags, Hope Wilson



DISTRICT	# of Units	Goal	Period Gain	Membership To Date	Percent of Goal	Membership Last Year	Difference from Last Year
						3/14/24	
One	47	3,341	16	2,947	88.21%	3,009	-62
Two	70	3,444	6	2,926	84.96%	3,057	-131
Three	46	3,476	43	3,060	88.03%	3,108	-48
Four	7	508	8	404	79.53%	426	-22
Five	7	463	0	290	62.63%	283	7
Six	60	4,469	16	4,011	89.75%	4,049	-38
Seven	52	2,561	5	2,198	85.83%	2,335	-137
Eight	20	1,117	2	910	81.47%	1012	-102
Nine	45	2,944	9	2,511	85.29%	2,590	-79
Ten	41	3,391	13	2,778	81.92%	2,899	-121
1982	1	331	0	248	74.92%	260	-12
Department Total	396	26,045	118	22,283	85.56%	23,028	-745

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
89.75%	88.21%	88.03%	85.83%	85.29%	84.96%	81.92%	81.47%	79.53%	62.63%
District 6	District 1	District 3	District 7	District 9	District 2	District 10	District 8	District 4	District 5



Get Excited! Door Prize Drawings at the Conventions in May!
 The only requirements? Be registered for the convention and be present to win.

Don't miss your chance to snag some amazing prizes!



Michelle Weaver
 1st District Auxiliary President
 Unit 595 President
weaver.michelle595@gmail.com
 507-850-2407-Cell
 507-551-2023-Home

2024-2025 Membership Bulletin

Dist	Unit	Unit Location	2025 DNO	Goal Dates Set By National				Junior	Senior	Total	Percent to Date	100%+ Date
				85% by 3/15/25	95% by 5/23/25	100% by 7/4/25	102% by 7/26/25					
00	1982	St Paul	331	281	314	331	338	4	244	248	74.92%	
00 Total			331					4	244	248	74.92%	
01	0009	Winona	114	3/3/25	108	114	116	3	102	105	92.11%	
01	0040	Lanesboro	101	86	96	101	103	0	85	85	84.16%	
01	0050	Wabasha	111	1/14/25	3/3/25	111	113	2	107	109	98.20%	
01	0052	Blooming Prairie	89	76	85	89	91	1	67	68	76.40%	
01	0056	Albert Lea	205	174	195	205	209	0	171	171	83.41%	
01	0068	Spring Valley	48	10/26/24	46	48	49	4	37	41	85.42%	
01	0075	New Richland	32	10/26/24	30	32	33	0	30	30	93.75%	
01	0077	Owatonna	98	1/28/25	93	98	100	1	83	84	85.71%	
01	0081	Harmony	44	3/3/25	42	44	45	12	27	39	88.64%	
01	0090	Lewiston	29	2/21/25	28	29	30	4	26	30	103.45%	3/3/25
01	0091	Austin	88	75	84	88	90	0	74	74	84.09%	
01	0092	Rochester	115	12/9/24	109	115	117	8	101	109	94.78%	
01	0094	Rushford	50	12/17/24	48	50	51	1	44	45	90.00%	
01	0105	Lyle	45	10/26/24	43	45	46	10	30	40	88.89%	
01	0110	Lake City	37	1/14/25	35	37	38	3	30	33	89.19%	
01	0119	Byron	14	10/8/24	13	14	14	0	15	15	107.14%	10/15/24
01	0140	Grand Meadow	63	1/28/25	1/28/25	63	64	6	54	60	95.24%	
01	0146	Adams	120	3/3/25	114	120	122	9	93	102	85.00%	
01	0161	Le Roy	42	12/17/24	40	42	43	14	25	39	92.86%	
01	0164	Stewartville	164	1/14/25	156	164	167	8	147	155	94.51%	
01	0179	Plainview	113	96	107	113	115	4	78	82	72.57%	
01	0190	Saint Charles	6	5	6	6	6	0	6	6	100.00%	12/17/24
01	0191	Caledonia	64	12/9/24	61	64	65	2	56	58	90.63%	
01	0197	Chatfield	18	9/17/24	17	18	18	0	17	17	94.44%	
01	0228	Waseca	229	195	218	229	234	11	183	194	84.72%	
01	0249	Spring Grove	73	62	69	73	74	2	60	62	84.93%	
01	0264	Glenville	86	12/9/24	1/14/25	86	88	14	77	91	105.81%	2/11/25
01	0295	West Concord	26	22	25	26	27	0	18	18	69.23%	
01	0299	Mabel	106	12/31/24	101	106	108	7	86	93	87.74%	
01	0330	Hayfield	175	3/3/25	166	175	179	10	139	149	85.14%	
01	0333	Kasson	125	106	119	125	128	3	100	103	82.40%	
01	0369	Wykoff	18	10/15/24	17	18	18	0	20	20	111.11%	11/5/24
01	0384	Dodge Center	56	12/9/24	53	56	57	6	44	50	89.29%	
01	0404	Alden	36	31	34	36	37	2	27	29	80.56%	
01	0422	Claremont	20	12/25/24	12/25/24	20	20	3	16	19	95.00%	
01	0423	Houston	109	1/14/25	104	109	111	1	95	96	88.07%	
01	0498	Hokah	18	11/12/24	17	18	18	0	17	17	94.44%	
01	0526	Peterson	44	37	42	44	45	1	35	36	81.82%	
01	0544	Ostrander	9	8	9	9	9	0	7	7	77.78%	
01	0551	Eyota	88	2/21/25	84	88	90	2	73	75	85.23%	
01	0552	Freeborn	55	9/17/24	9/17/24	11/26/24	56	11	46	57	103.64%	11/26/24
01	0573	Elgin	8	12/25/24	8	8	8	0	7	7	87.50%	
01	0579	Millville	39	11/26/24	37	39	40	0	40	40	102.56%	12/17/24
01	0587	Waldorf	15	11/26/24	14	15	15	1	13	14	93.33%	
01	0588	Mazeppa	34	12/17/24	32	34	35	0	29	29	85.29%	
01	0595	La Crescent	148	12/31/24	141	148	151	8	124	132	89.19%	
01	0637	Whalan	14	9/24/24	13	14	14	0	12	12	85.71%	
01 Total			3341					174	2773	2947	88.21%	

Preston Veterans Home: update

We want to thank Glen Mueller and the Preston dietary staff for the excellent Pheasant Dinner. That was put on for the residents. President Judy was very impressed with the meal and her first time to the home. If anyone is interested in volunteering at the home, please contact me at w.prescher1951@gmail.com I will send you what you need to do for the application. Gabby is planning on a first training session in March.

They would like patriotic pillowcases and the table squares! They will appreciate whatever they receive!

Wanda Prescher

First District Representative.



GIRLS STATE

Girls State

Girls State deadline has been extended to April 15th! To help with recruiting. If your unit is looking to sponsor a girl and have not been able to recruit one, we have girls looking for sponsorship who really want to attend. Thank you to units who helped to sponsor some of these girls looking for sponsorship and do not have an American Legion in their community.

For those who have registered their student, you will receive a code late April to give to your student for everything that needs to be done. **THIS REPLACES THE MAILED PACKET as in the past!**

You and the student will receive everything she and her parents need to fill out and sign via electronically. Just want everyone to be aware of this major change. More info will go out along with the code. This is new to all of us, and we need to be patient in how this rolls out for the first time! I thank everyone that works for our Girls State Program here in the 1st District, we always have a great turnout. You still have some time to hopefully recruit a young lady!

Thank you for all you do for our Girls State Program!

Wanda Prescher

MN ALA Girls State

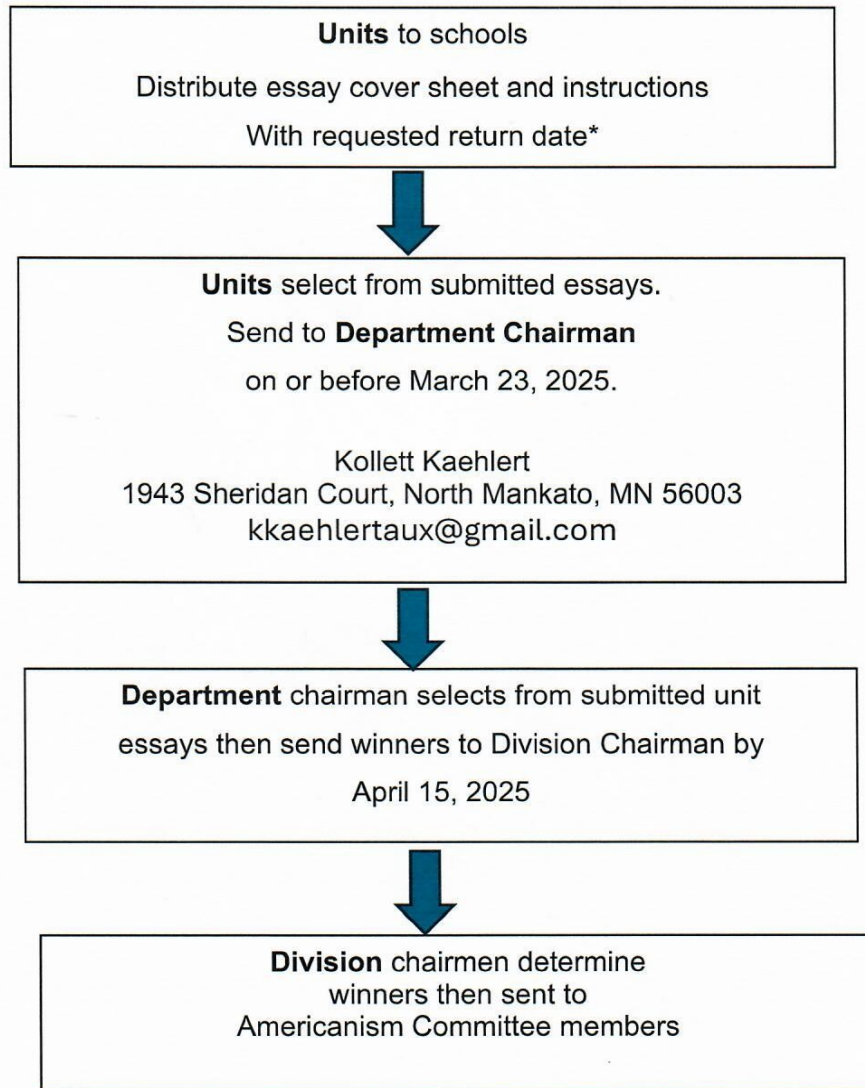
Chairman





Americanism Essay Contest flow chart

Visit www.ALforVeterans.org for more information and required cover sheet



*Deadlines determined by unit and department chairmen.



**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST
2025 Cover Sheet**

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund.

Essay Title: "What does America the Beautiful mean to me regarding veterans and our military?"

Essay Classes:

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

Essay Checklist:

- Class competing in _____
- Sponsoring ALA unit _____
- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- Word count of essay _____
- Due date for student to return to ALA unit _____

To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

School Name: _____

School City/State: _____

Teacher Name and Signature: _____

Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: _____

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department on: _____ Department: _____

Signature of Department Chairman: _____

Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2025



Greetings Legion Family Members

Since the last newsletter, I have only attended the First District Jr Conference in Stewartville and the National Commanders Super at La Crescent.

I was disappointed on the turn out at the First District Jr Conference. I am sure we have more Jr's than that. We need to promote the Jrs better and get them to attend events. I want to thank Myrna for all the hard work she and Stewartville put in for the Jr Conference.

Regan McElroy

First District Auxiliary Honorary Jr President

FROM YOUR HONORAY AUXILIARY



Regan with the Legion National Commander at La Crescent, MN

Hi, I am Regan McElroy, I am the new Honorary Junior President of the First District American Legion Auxiliary. I would like to give an introduction to the District. I am 12 years old. I live in Riceville, Iowa with my mom (Missy) my Dad (Joe), my sister (Taylor), and I also have an older sister (Melanie). I play basketball, softball and volleyball. In my spare time, I enjoy hanging out with my friends and going shopping.

My project this year in the Outdoor Recreation Activities Fund for the Preston Veterans Home. The project is to help take the veterans hunting, fishing and ect. I would like to than everyone who has donated so far. Remember that the check needs to be made out to the First District American Legion Auxiliary and in the memo line put – Honorary Jr Presidents project.

Regan McElroy - First District Auxiliary Honorary Jr President

A POORLY ATTENDED 2025 AUXILIARY JR CONFERENCE

1st District Jr Conference, Saturday, March 22, 2025, hosted by Stewartville Auxiliary. We did not have a quorum to hold a meeting. We did proceed with an informational meeting.

The morning began with breakfast: Sausage and biscuits, fruit, mini donuts, along with coffee, milk and juice.

Due to the lack of a quorum, the 1st District Jr. Conference was unable to hold their annual business meeting. All Jr officers will remain in their current officer positions for the year 2025-2026.

We did proceed with an informational meeting. Welcome greetings from Ron Moore, Stewartville Post 164 Commander and Nicole Ramaker, Stewartville Unit 164 Auxiliary, 1st Vice President.

Honorary Jr President, Regan McElroy led us in The Pledge of Alliance. She shared with the group about her Jr President Project for outdoor recreation for the Veterans at the Preston Veterans Home. She is collecting monetary donations and has raised \$1,257 so far.

Kassy Betterman (Tonya's daughter) shared some of her experience from her military duties in the Marines.

The group decorated and colored 40 HAPPY EASTER, door hangers that were taken to the Stewartville Care Center.

Poppy contest:

Class 1: Poppy Wreath: 1st Daisy Welter
 Poppy Jewelry: 1st Daisy Welter
 Poppy Corsage: 1st Daisy Welter,

Class 2: Poppy Wreath: 1st Izzy Slovinske Zipperer
 Poppy Jewelry: 1st Izzy Slovinske Zipperer
 Poppy Corsage: 1st Izzy Slovinske Zipperer

An Easter Egg Hunt was had. We ended with door prizes.

Respectfully submitted,

Myrna Welter

Jr Auxiliary members pictured right are front row, left to right: Daisy Welter & Poppy Welter
 Back row, left to right: Izzy Slovinski Zipperer & Regan McElroy.

Helper was Silas Welter on end.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS



COMMANDER

Josh Erickson
PO Box 376 - Winona, MN 55987
507-313-5861
josheric@hbc.com

ADJUTANT

Dave Bilderback
4409 22nd Ave NW, Rochester, MN 55901
507-250-1057
dbilderback@aol.com

EAST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Brian Tomashak
560 East Fifth St - Winona, MN 55987
507-454-5998
btoma0210@gmail.com

WEST SIDE VICE COMMANDER

Open

MEMBERSHIP

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

FINANCE OFFICER

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

PARLIMENTERIAN

Gary Weaver
29 North Elm St—La Crescent, MN 55947
507-895-2818 or 507-450-9580
gweaver@acegroup.cc

CHAPLAIN

Brian Tomashak
560 East Fifth St—Winona, MN 55987
507-454-9598
btoma0210@gmail.com

Sgt at ARMS

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

FROM YOUR COMMANDER

Greetings Legion Family,

It does not seem like it has been a year since the 2024 SAL District Convention, yet here we are. The 2025 SAL District Convention will be hosted by Legion Post 110 in Lake City at the Wild Wings Plaza on May 3, 2025. All the information is included in the Call to Convention below.

In addition to the putting a “Call to Convention” in the district newsletter, one has been mailed to every squadron. The last several years, attendance at the convention has been meager at best, and I want to see that change. We are the second largest district in Minnesota with around 1,600 members and 36 squadrons, yet only average around fifteen members from five or six squadrons at convention. We can do better!

We did not have a West Vice-Commander this year, and at this point, have no nominations for one next year. It would really help if a member from the west side of the district steps up to take on this role. Nominations for all officers will be accepted from the convention floor, and it is highly encouraged for nominees to get a letter of endorsement signed by the commander or adjutant of their squadron and post.

Josh Erickson
District SAL Commander



TO: All squadrons of the First District

RE: Call to Convention

By the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sons of the American Legion, First District, Detachment of Minnesota, I do hereby call for a Convention of the First District Sons of the American Legion to convene on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 9:00 AM in Lake City, Minnesota.

DATE: May 3, 2025
HOST: American Legion Post 110, Lake City
LOCATION: Wild Wings Plaza
 2101 S Hwy 61
 Lake City, MN 55041
TIME: Executive Committee meets at 9:00 AM
 Convention convenes at 10:00 AM

The purpose of this Convention shall be the election of district officers, including a Commander, West Vice-Commander, East Vice-Commander, Chaplain and Finance Officer; and to conduct any business as may properly come before the Convention.

In Convention, representation shall be by Squadron, as prescribed in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sons of the American, First District, Detachment of Minnesota. Each Squadron shall be entitled to one (1) delegate, and one (1) additional delegate for every twenty-five (25) members, or major fraction thereof, whose dues for the current year have been received by the Detachment at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of Convention.

Each Squadron shall certify a list of delegates and alternates to the District SAL Adjutant at least ten (10) days prior to the start of Convention. The delegate certification must be signed by a Squadron officer and submitted to the District SAL Adjutant:

DAVE BILDERBACK
4409 22ND AVE NW
ROCHESTER, MN 55901
dbilderbackb@aol.com

All members of the First District Sons of the American Legion are encouraged to attend.



Josh Erickson

I hereby certify the delegates and alternates listed below have been duly selected to represent the

2025 SAL CONVENTION DELEGATE CERTIFICATION

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron of _____ Post # _____

in District Convention convening on May 3, 2025, at 9:00 AM, in Lake City, Minnesota.

<u>DELEGATES</u>		<u>ALTERNATES</u>

Signed _____ Date _____

SAL 1st District

Membership Summary as of 3/31/25

The 1st District comes in at 5th place out of 10 Districts. Less than 1 percentage point from 4th place. We as a District have 8 days to reach the goal of 90%. At this point we should all be at 100% or better.

Membership goals and status:

Districts	2024 Results	2025 Goal	Current at Dept.	Percentage	Placing
1st District	1670	1743	1526	87.55%	5
2nd District	1313	1385	1151	83.10%	7
3rd District	2184	2256	2016	89.36%	3
4th District	410	422	382	90.52%	2
5th District	349	365	259	70.96%	10
6th District	1631	1693	1428	84.35%	6
7th District	902	938	829	88.38%	4
8th District	489	509	423	83.10%	8
9th District	879	915	862	94.21%	1
10th District	1637	1699	1353	79.64%	9
Totals	11464	11925	10229	85.78%	
<i>*The above goals are set by the District Leadership</i>					

April 9, 2025	90%
May 17, 2025	100%
July 22, 2025**	105%



1st District

Sqdrn.	Location	2024 Results (7/31/2024)	2025 Goal	Total at Dept		Grand Total	% of Goal	Date Goal Reached
9	Winona	145	147	148	0	148	100.68%	2/23/2025
40	Lanesboro	68	70	66	0	66	94.29%	
50	Wabasha	20	22	21	0	21	95.45%	
52	Blooming Prairie	39	41	33	0	33	80.49%	
56	Albert Lea	109	111	83	0	83	74.77%	
77	Owatonna	102	104	90	0	90	86.54%	
90	Lewiston	46	48	47	0	47	97.92%	
91	Austin	58	60	59	0	59	98.33%	
92	Rochester	77	79	84	0	84	106.33%	3/2/2025
94	Rushford	26	28	31	0	31	110.71%	2/23/2025
105	Lyle	27	29	5	0	5	17.24%	
119	Byron	24	26	25	0	25	96.15%	
146	Adams	104	106	69	0	69	65.09%	
161	Leroy	37	39	35	0	35	89.74%	
164	Stewartville	120	122	106	0	106	86.89%	
166	Preston	42	44	50	0	50	113.64%	12/15/2024
179	Plainview	10	12	3	0	3	25.00%	
190	St Charles	3	5	3	0	3	60.00%	
191	Caledonia	7	9	8	0	8	88.89%	
228	Waseca	134	136	126	0	126	92.65%	
264	Glenville	54	56	64	0	64	114.29%	3/2/2025
266	Hartland	11	13	10	0	10	76.92%	
281	Janesville	7	9	6	0	6	66.67%	
299	Mabel	17	19	5	0	5	26.32%	
317	Emmons	31	34	49	0	49	144.12%	11/25/2024
330	Hayfield	48	50	49	0	49	98.00%	
333	Kasson	42	44	27	0	27	61.36%	
384	Dodge Center	4	6	1	0	1	16.67%	
404	Alden	54	56	45	0	45	80.36%	
423	Houston	10	12	13	0	13	108.33%	12/2/2024
446	Rochester	32	34	27	0	27	79.41%	
546	Kellogg	12	14	12	0	12	85.71%	
551	Eyota	39	41	29	0	29	70.73%	
552	Freeborn	26	28	22	0	22	78.57%	
579	Millville	23	25	23	0	23	92.00%	
595	La Crescent	62	64	52	0	52	81.25%	
1st District Totals		1670	1743	1526	0	1526	87.55%	
36								

Squadron Summary

Seven Squadrons are at 100% or better at this point. You're right where we all should be. Congratulations, well done.

Eight Squadrons at National April goal of 90% (but not yet at 100%).

WE AS DISTRICT ONE ARE OFF THE GOOSE EGG!!!!

See our District membership detail in the report following this summary. How is your Squadron Doing, and are you OK with your status? If not please take action, or reach out to our commander, east vice commander or me for some help. "I got your six," and we are ready and willing to help.

As we get more into this year we are already planning for how packet hand out will be accomplished this year. It will be different than past years and Squadrons will be more hands on and responsible for obtaining their packets. More details to follow as we get closer.

We just can't keep doing the same old process and expect different (better) results. It's just not happening.

All that being said, a lot of Squadrons are out there doing great things to support their Legion, the Legion family, and their communities. Keep up the good work and pull in some new members. One thing to consider is speaking with your local Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Being in the Scouts is a great step into joining the SAL. Both groups do share very similar goals.

God Bless our troops, past and present and God Bless the USA.

Sincerely,

Greg Lemmer

1st District SAL

Membership Director Greg Lemmer

gslemmer@hbc.com

Cell 507-312-2222

**DIRECTOR****SUNSHINE MILLER MALONEY**

Phone 507-459-5962

EMAIL - sunshine1alr@gmail.com

VICE DIRECTOR - CHUCK STONE

1625 Crestview Lane

Owatonna, MN 55060

Phone - 507 213-7517

EMAIL - castoney@hotmail.com

SGT at ARMS - Gene Luedke

325 Hoffman Dr. Apt 305

Owatonna, MN 55060

PHONE—507—451—5731

EMAIL - gene.luedke@hotmail.com

SECRETARY - TONIA BETTERMANN

1625 Crestview Lane

Owatonna, MN 55060

PHONE—507—456—2315

EMAIL - betttm88@outlook.com

FINANCIAL ADVISOR - MARK MALONEY

845 54th Avenue, Apt E

Winona , MN 55987

Phone - 507-513-1582

EMAIL - markmaloney1962@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN - JILL REED**HISTORIAN - Karen "Sassy" Nay - Winona****2025 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, Karla Miller-Maloney, First District ALR Director, do hereby call a convention meeting of the First District ALR to be held at the Wild Wings Plaza, 2101 Hwy 61 South, Lake City, MN at 1 PM, on Saturday, May 3rd, 2025.

The purpose of this convention meeting is to elect District Officers and to conduct such business of the First District ALR that may 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
Karla Miller-Maloney

Reminder that the First District ALR Convention is on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 1pm. Hosted by the American Legion Post 110, Lake City, MN

The First District American Legion Convention will be held in Wild Wings Plaza, 2101 South Hwy 61, Lake City, MN. Pre-registration Fee \$15.00 registration, at the door it will be \$20.00. **YOU WILL NEED TO BRING YOUR 2025 MEMBERSHIP CARD IN ORDER TO VOTE.**

Please fill out the pre-registration form in this newsletter before April 30, 2025 and mail to:
American Legion Post 110
Convention Registration
PO Box 23
Lake City, MN 55041

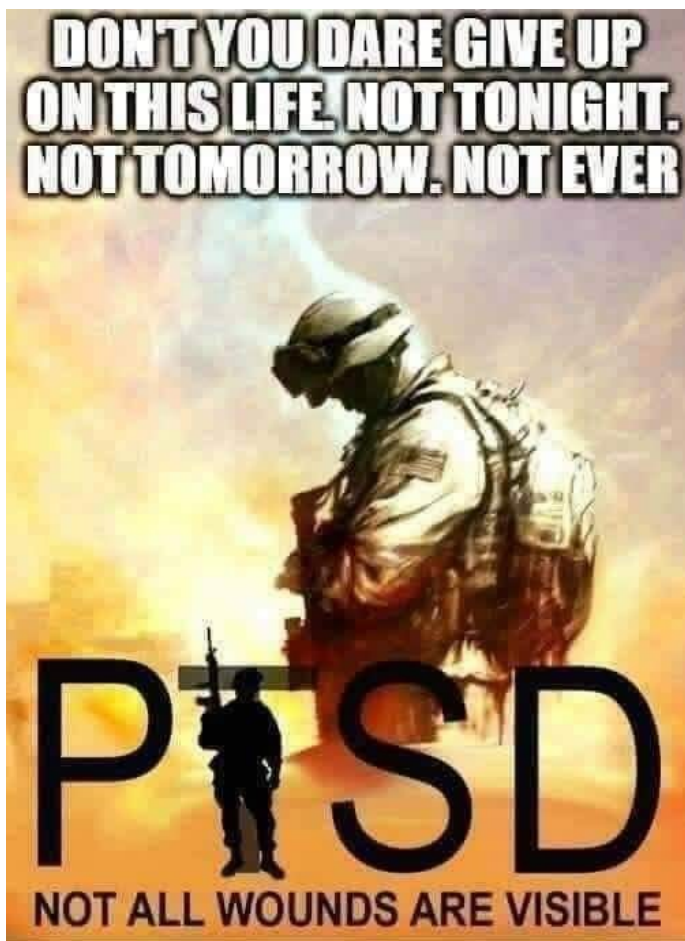
We will be voting on adding the following officer position to the District By-Laws: **First District ALR Parliamentarian:** The Parliamentarian shall be appointed and advise the Director on questions of parliamentary procedure, review resolutions for proper form, serve as a parliamentary resource for all Chapters in the First District, serve as a member of the First District ALR Executive Committee and perform other such duties as assigned by the District Director.

We will also be voting on the following officers with the following accepted nominations. We will take any additional nominations before we vote on 3 May 2025:

Director - Wes Halverson
Vice Director - Roe Naylor
Secretary - Sunshine Miller Maloney
Treasurer - Mark Maloney
Historian - Tricia Peterson
Chaplain - Jill Reed

Together we can make a difference in the lives of Veterans and their families





An app for on line mental health

[https://](https://www.facebook.com/100019040483031/posts/1054342938543712/?sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROouL)

[www.facebook.com/100019040483031/
posts/1054342938543712/?](https://www.facebook.com/100019040483031/posts/1054342938543712/?sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROouL)

[sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROouL](https://www.facebook.com/100019040483031/posts/1054342938543712/?sfnsn=mo&mibextid=LROouL) **Veter-**
ans in crisis now eligible for free
care nationwide [https://](https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-crisis-now-eligible-free-care-nationwide/%3foutputType=amp)

[www.google.com/amp/s/
www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-
crisis-now-eligible-free-care-
nationwide/%3foutputType=amp](https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.kttc.com/2023/01/17/veterans-crisis-now-eligible-free-care-nationwide/%3foutputType=amp)

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

The web page betheone.org has been updated with a variety of resources. Among them:

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

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

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

Video links: Vimeo playlist includes videos that can be downloaded and played while offline. They can be shared on social media, posted to the web and played at post events.

Additionally, headquarters staff has created [a QR Code](#) for the Be the One page. This can be used to direct others to find information and resources related to the campaign.

How to scan a QR code:

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

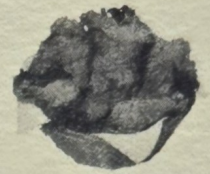
ADAMS AMERICAN LEGION POST 146

Chicken, Fish, & Steak Fry Schedule



Serving Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.*

*(*Unless Noted)* (507) 582-3266



2024 SCHEDULE

Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	September 7
Chicken & Steak Fry, Auxiliary	October 5
Chicken & Steak Fry, Southland Trap Shoot.....	October 19
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	November 2
Steak Fry, Knights of Columbus	November 9
Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....	November 23
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	December 7
Chicken & Steak Fry, Cancer, Snowmobile Club	December 21
Windsor Chops, New Years Eve, Legion	December 31


2025 SCHEDULE

Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....	January 4
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion	January 18
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....	February 1
Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....	February 15
Fish Fry, Auxiliary	March 7
Steak Fry, Sportsmen.....	March 15
Fish Fry, SAL	March 21
Fish Fry, Legion.....	April 4
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion Baseball.....	April 26
Chicken & Steak Fry Legion	May 3
Chicken & Steak Fry, Trap Shoot	May 17
Steak Fry, Legion, Dairy Days	June 7
Chicken & Steak Fry, Dairy Days	June 8

~ E-Tabs & Bingo Now Available ~

***** MUSEUM OPEN 6-8 P.M. EVERY FRY *****

www.adamslegionpost146.com • Facebook - visit: Adams Post 146



Come celebrate
**REACTIVATING the
GLENVILLE
AMERICAN LEGION
RIDERS CHAPTER**

#264

Celebration

**APRIL 26, 2025
2-5PM**

**Sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary #264
Glenville, MN**

FOOD, FUN, DOOR PRIZES

If you would like to join the Riders, come with questions!

FREE WILL Donation

Open to the public

**GLENVILLE AMERICAN
LEGION**

MAIN STREET GLENVILLE

LEGION RIDERS

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH 9AM—12 PM

\$12.00 AT THE DOOR

BREAKFAST INCLUDES: EGGS, SAUSAGE, BISQUITS & GRAVY,

COFFEE, MILK OR ORANGE JUICE AND

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES

PROCEEDS GO TO THE VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT

AUSTIN AMERICAN LEGION POST 91

809 12TH ST SW, AUSTIN MN

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 91

Winona American Legion

SAL Squadron 9

2025 Chicken Q Dates

January 4	SAL Chicken Q
February 22	UAW Veterans Group. They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken.
March 15	Event Sponsor is Pickwick Mill Inc. They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken.
April 5	SAL Chicken Q
September 6	SAL Chicken Q
October 4	Event Sponsor is Winona Cotter HS Speech Team. They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken.

All events offer dine in or carry out. We would hope you dine in, and experience the great family environment at the Winona American Legion.



*and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 92 of Rochester
= Support our Veteran Programs!!!*

Unit 92 will be teaming up with Pizza Ranch on Wednesday April 16th at 4 pm to raise funds for our Veteran programs.

We are excited to spend the evening greeting and meeting all that come to dine and enjoy a great feast all while helping our unit support our various Veteran programs.

We hope you can come out to this fun event.

If you are available to help that evening you may contact:

Sharon Kingsley—President Unit 92, Rochester, MN

507-206-1885

VETERANS DAY ON THE HILL 2025

WHEN:
APRIL 9TH, 2025

DAV of MN Presents:
Free Veterans and Supporters Lunch
(One Block from Capitol at 600 Cedar Street, St. Paul)

Doors Open @ 10:00AM FOR COFFEE
LUNCH PROVIDED

PRESENTATION @ 12:00PM

Veterans March to the Rally @ 1:00pm
(Short Walk from Armory to State Veterans Service Building 20 West
12th St, St. Paul)

CTF and MACVSO Present:
Rally in the Rotunda 1:30-2:30pm



ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT-
TRENT@DAVMN.ORG:

**NO MEMBERSHIP IN
ANY ORGANIZATION
REQUIRED.**
**ALL SUPPORTERS ARE
WELCOME!**



Topics Include:

PASSING A CLEAN
VETERANS OMNIBUS
BILL

INCREASING THE
AMOUNT OF THE
PROPERTY TAX VALUE
EXCLUSION

REDUCED COST
HUNTING AND FISHING
LICENSE FOR DISABLED
VETERAN

Meet Your Lawmaker!!

A MINIBUS RUNNING
FROM THE ARMORY TO
THE CENTENNIAL AND
SENATE OFFICE
BUILDINGS 10-1130.

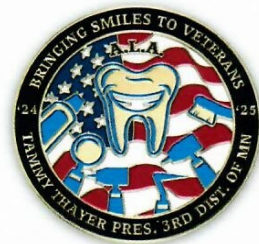
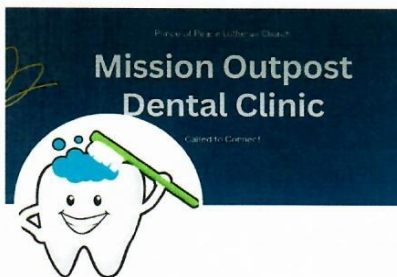
MAKE YOUR
APPOINTMENTS TO SEE
YOUR LAWMAKERS!



FREE DENTAL CLINIC FOR VETERANS!

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH, 2025

Bringing Smiles to Veterans



When:

Saturday
April 19th, 2025
9:00am - 5:00pm

Where:

Mission Outpost Dental Clinic
13801 Fairview Drive
Burnsville, MN 55337
(located in Prince of Peace Church)

For All Active, Reserve, Retired Military, and for all those who served in the military, we would like to say “thank you for your service” by providing you with free dental and wellness services. Free dental care kits made by the 3rd District Auxiliary Juniors are also provided.

3rd District of the American Legion Auxiliary will be teaming with volunteer Dental Hygienists, and Mission Outpost Dental Clinic, to provide free dental cleanings, exams, x-rays, & fluoride treatment. Fillings, extractions, root canals, and other restorative care will be provided. There will be a vendor table area to offer veterans information for resources and benefits, if needed.

Appointments are limited, please call the ph# below to schedule. If you need assistance with transportation let Tammy Thayer know, 507-319-4349. Vendors wanting to join us please call Tammy to reserve your space.

Dental Cleaning
(952)-898-9318

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(952)-898-9318

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(952)-898-9318

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