



**The American Legion**  
**Third District**  
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Every Veterans is a Treasure

We Are on the web!  
[www.mnthunderingthird.org](http://www.mnthunderingthird.org)

## June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	27	28	29	30	31



# Volume 10 Issue 11

## The Commanders Corner

Here we are heading into our convention season. We need one big membership push to get us over the hump. The end of the month (June) we start all over with the 2026 membership packets. The 3rd district convention went off well. We got our business done and tons of fun was had by all!! Thank you forest Lake for hosting! We have a whole new slate of officers chomping the bit to get started next month. Unfortunately, we are short 1 vice commander. Please, look into your heart and consider applying for that position. I have been honored to be the 3rd district Commander for this past year, and I want to thank everyone for their support!!

Commander Joe

## District and/or Department Positions

Have you ever thought about getting more involved at the District or even the Department Level of the American Legion? If so, please talk to Mark Dvorak, Pat Logan, Don Skow, Don Pankake or Duane Anderson

They can help you understand the various positions and how to move to the next level of leadership

## The Chaplains Corner

It was just a little over three years ago that I received an invitation that would end up changing my life. Like, literally, change my life. I was a member of an American Legion Post in Eagan, but had never gone to a meeting. Previous experience had told me that as a female veteran I may not be the most welcome person to show up. And I was busy. You know. Busy. With life. With ministry. And then I received an email. The post needed a chaplain. No fair! I could do that. But did I want to? And you had to CALL the commander. I was recently widowed and wasn't sure I wanted an unknown man to have my phone number (I hadn't given it out to the Legion or too many other people/organizations either at that point).

I said yes to that invitation to serve and it has changed my life for the better. Yes, that guy I called has become someone very special, but that's a story for another day (or just ask him, he loves to tell it) 😊

What changed is my involvement in this Family has become a central part of my life. And it all started with an invitation.

What prompted this article was the Third District Convention held this past weekend. I looked around the room at all of the people gathered there. As I prayed silently for each of the leaders and for each row of people I thought about the years' worth of knowledge and service in that room. How blessed we are to have folks who will step into leadership! If you were there – thank you! If you missed the convention this year it is my hope and prayer that you will be there the next time the Family assembles.

So, what prompted you to answer the invitation to join the American Legion Family? For some of us – it's the reminder that we still have a lot to offer – to our community, to our country. For some of us – it's a connection to a time in our life when we answered a call and that whether we have a resounding love for military service or mixed emotions, we did serve and now we can be around people who will listen to us, hear us and perhaps, if needed, help to heal us.

Whatever the reason you answered the invitation, let us pause and reflect on what it means to invite someone. Who will you invite to join this Family we call the American Legion? How might you be part of changing someone's life for the better?

I invite you to pray with me: God of love, God of abundance, God of invitation – you invite us to share life with one another. You invite us to see the people around us – so that when we encounter a veteran or family member of veteran we may offer them that invitation to service beyond self. May it be so. Amen

Grace and Peace,  
Cindy Yanchury, Chaplain

### **3rd District Convention Committee**

The 2025 District Convention will be held at Forest Lake Post 225. New Prague Post 45 will host the 2026 District Convention, we are still looking for someone to host the 2027 District Convention.

Conventions have been submitted to the Convention Committee. If any post is interested in holding a District Convention, please contact Bob Roe H(952-447-5811) ([grandpax8@nuveramail.net](mailto:grandpax8@nuveramail.net)), Mark Dvorak (952-457-2130), or Dave Bode (507-995-4076) and we will get you the information needed to hold convention. If you please leave a message and we will get back to you.

Bob Roe, Dist. Conv. Chairman

### **Calendar of Events**

June	Membership Card Pick-up	To Be Determined
Jul 10-12	Department Convention	Willmar Convention Center
Aug 22-28	National Convention	Tampa FL

### **National Convention Delegates**

Joe Tappainer  
Amy Larsen  
Nate Olson  
Don Pankake  
Joseph Bares  
Don Skow  
Cindy Yanchury  
Mark Dvorak  
Pat Logan

### **National Convention Alternates**

Marissa Lacourt  
Ashley Venburg  
Ross Lacourt  
Lori Belschner  
Amanda Cross

All individuals on these two lists will get information from Department regarding the Convention. Alternates will fill Delegate vacancies in the order listed, but you can still attend as an alternate, you just will not get a stipend from the District. As a delegate – if you find you are unable to attend, please let the Adjutant know so the next alternate is given the opportunity to attend. If you are an alternate and decide not to attend at all, please let the adjutant know, this will save the Department of sending you any information regarding the convention.

**If you are interested in a position as Commander, Vice Commander or Finance Officer for the district, please get your post to endorse you and get that endorsement, which should be included in your membership meeting minutes, to the Adjutant (Third.district.Adjutant@gmail.com)**

## **Membership Update**

No update this month.

## **SAL UPDATE**

No update this month

## **American Legion Night at the Twins**

Please share this with your districts, committees, newsletter editors, other networks.

American Legion Night at Target Field will take place on Wednesday, June 25, at 6:40 p.m. The Minnesota Twins take on the Seattle Mariners. Commander Carl Moon will toss out the first pitch. Membership Director Carla Tappainer will raise the U.S. flag.

Here is the link for purchasing discount tickets. Save this link in case someone asks you about it:

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/American8>

If you do need to find it again, there is a page about American Legion Night at Target Field on our department website: <https://mnlegion.org/american-legion-night-at-target-field/> The FEVO link is a quarter of the way down.

The timing is in late June this year because are hoping to have a large representation of players, parents and coaches from Minnesota American Legion Baseball and Softball, as well as Auxiliary, Riders, Sons and the Legion itself. (The Twins might even have the players receive a recognition on the field if we get enough to come.) We want to invite anyone in the Legion Family or anyone who is part of the Legion's many youth programs to this game. Nothing is more American than baseball/softball and The American Legion.

## **What's Happening Around the District**

May was Poppy month, some posts were out helping the Auxiliary distribute poppies!

Woodbury Post 501



# New Prague Post 45

