



The American Legion
Third District
Linda Dvorak
1506 Praha St SE
New Prague MN 56071

Every Veterans is a Treasure

We Are on the web!
www.mnthunderingthird.org

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						¹
²	³	⁴	⁵	⁶	⁷	⁸ Appreciation Rally
⁹	¹⁰	¹¹	¹² 90% Target Renewal Cutoff	¹³	¹⁴	¹⁵
¹⁶	¹⁷	¹⁸	¹⁹	²⁰	²¹	²²
²³	²⁴	²⁵	²⁶	²⁷	²⁸	²⁹
³⁰	³¹					



Volume 10 Issue 8

The Commanders Corner

Here we are cruising into muddy March. We missed the Sweetheart Rally, but we have the Appreciation Rally coming up on March 8th. I am disappointed that more of the posts are not getting officers & volunteers together to do a revitalization of their posts. All it takes is for the membership chairs to print out the lists of people who have not renewed their membership and the officers and volunteers to give them a call and ask what we can do to get them back into the Legion. Once those lists are exhausted then go to work calling the 1982's & 1982AD's

If I were to be a post commander next year, I would have the membership chair print out the post membership report. I would divide up the list between my officers, and each officer would be responsible for calling each person on their list for a buddy check once a month. At the monthly executive meeting there will be a line item on the agenda to talk about how the buddy checks are going and how our people are doing. Accountability is important! We must take steps to contact our fellow veterans on a regular basis or we are going to lose them. Show them that we care about them!

Have a Blessed and Happy Easter!!!

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 or Duane Anderson.

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

The Chaplains Corner

Surprised by Joy

Greetings 3rd District American Legion Family! Is it cold enough for ya outside? I don't know about you but it sure does feel as though we've had plenty of "Lion" weather in the month of February, so here's to hoping March comes in like a lamb and goes out like one too!

Our thoughts do begin to dream of spring – those lovely days as the snow melts and once again we can find ourselves enjoying outdoor activities. Of course, we live in Minnesota so we all know we may not have true spring until sometime in May! But let's pretend, shall we?

I'm going to hope for springtime walks in March. Back in the days when I was a runner and would get out early in the morning to put in a few miles, this was my time to pray, to plan, to dream and more. Now that my life has slowed down to walking I find it even more satisfying because I can also focus on the beauty of Creation all around me.

In my devotions yesterday I came across this paragraph by Thomas H. Green, in his book: "Opening to God" and want to share it with you as we continue the theme of self-care.

"I find it good just to let my gaze wander, without any concern for time and without any attempt to force concentration. Gradually one part of the woods catches my attention...and then one tree...and eventually one branch on the tree. My scattered thoughts come into focus on a single experience, and then I dive deeper and deeper into that one reality (as they say, you can find the whole universe in a blade of grass!). Oftentimes the result is that my attention is absorbed by some small flower or leaf at my feet which I had not even noticed before...and I am at peace!"

May you be at peace!

Grace and Peace,
Cindy Yanchury, Chaplain

3rd District Convention Committee

The 2025 District Convention will be held at Forest Lake Post 225. At this time, no bids to hold the 2026 or 2027

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), 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

Mar 1	District Family Gathering	St Paul Park Post 98
Mar 8	Appreciation Rally	Chanhassen Post 580
Apr 5	Department Cmdr Testimonial	Zimmerman Post 560
Apr 27	Joint District Testimonial	Lonsdale Post 586
May 16-17	District Convention	Forest Lake Post 225

National Convention Endorsements

Post 45 endorses Mark Dvorak as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 45 endorses Linda Dvorak as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 3 endorses Joe Bares as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 1776 endorses Carla Tappainer as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 1776 endorses Lori Belscher as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 225 endorses Don Skow as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 225 endorses Ashley Venburg as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 225 endorses Amanda Cross as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention
 Post 96 endorses Don Pankake as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention

Position Endorsements

3rd District and Post 45 endorse Linda Dvorak for the position of Dept Commander for 2025-26
 Post 586 endorses Amy Larsen for the position of District Commander for 2025-26
 Post 95 endorses Jim Entinger for the position of District Vice Commander for 2025-26
 Post 108 endorses Don Hayden for a position on the Third District Finance COmmittee

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.

Membership Update

Membership is off to a great start we're about to enter in to March 2025. We will start feeling a little bit more relief from the cold days and the sun comes out longer. Our membership numbers are growing, so thank you for everyone's hard work. The renewals are too. Let's keep it up. We currently have 8,492 paid membership in the 3rd district. If each one of us were to reach out to veterans we know or just meet and tell them why they should join the Legion our membership would grow exponentially. Below are our current membership numbers.

I also want to take a moment to encourage you that to come to a district or department event. Come meet other veterans and see what opportunities the Legion holds for you and all veterans. These gatherings are also a great place to meet other veterans.

Amy Larsen

3rd District Membership Director

This report is as of February 28, 2025.

Area 1 Joe Bares

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
37	ST. PETER	232	216	93.10%
55	LE SUEUR	47	40	85.11%
74	HENDERSON	33	31	93.94%
79	MONTGOMERY	116	114	98.28%
108	LE CENTER	270	238	88.15%
144	BELLE PLAINE	81	71	87.65%
149	MORRISTOWN	108	97	89.81%
207	CLEVELAND	68	64	94.12%
311	ELYSIAN	177	156	88.14%
380	KILKENNY	11	11	100.00%
433	GAYLORD	83	66	79.52%
510	NICOLLET	108	101	93.52%
518	NORTH MANKATO	215	192	89.30%
Total		1549	1397	90.19%

Area 4 Wayne Beierman

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
48	STILLWATER	158	143	90.51%
65	ROSEMOUNT	180	185	102.78%
98	ST. PAUL PARK	397	357	89.92%
225	FOREST LAKE	670	614	91.64%
424	INVER GROVE HTS.	67	57	85.07%
491	BAYPORT	271	238	87.82%
501	WOODBURY	127	123	96.85%
507	MAHTOMEDI	43	41	95.35%
521	MENDOTA HEIGHTS	53	43	81.13%
594	EAGAN	248	195	78.63%
620	HUGO	162	148	91.36%
1700	BURNSVILLE	55	57	103.64%
Total		2431	2201	90.54%

Area 2 Jim Entinger

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
95	GLENCOE	78	70	89.74%
96	HUTCHINSON	462	398	86.15%
125	STEWART	45	37	82.22%
141	SILVER LAKE	161	151	93.79%
143	BROWNTON	58	49	84.48%
228	GIBBON	16	14	87.50%
250	ARLINGTON	30	32	106.67%
300	LAFAYETTE	45	42	93.33%
314	WINTHROP	53	49	92.45%
407	WINSTED	85	78	91.76%
408	GREEN ISLE	35	30	85.71%
463	LESTER PRAIRIE	36	32	88.89%
641	PLATO	21	17	80.95%
Total		1125	999	88.80%

Area 5 Marissa Lacourt

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
43	FARIBAULT	340	304	89.41%
44	LAKEVILLE	104	89	85.58%
47	HASTINGS	318	269	84.59%
54	RED WING	382	354	92.67%
78	KENYON	50	47	94.00%
142	CANNON FALLS	120	111	92.50%
183	ZUMBROTA	43	38	88.37%
184	PINE ISLAND	105	87	82.86%
189	FARMINGTON	115	84	85.71%
586	LONSDALE	139	116	83.45%
598	BELLECHESTER	58	57	98.28%
1776	APPLE VALLEY	837	715	85.42%
Total		2611	2271	86.98%

Area 3 Ross Lacourt

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
2	SHAKOPEE	152	135	88.82%
3	JORDAN	52	55	105.77%
45	NEW PRAGUE	205	186	90.73%
57	CHASKA	244	234	95.90%
84	NORTHFIELD	180	158	87.78%
121	WATERTOWN	46	44	95.65%
150	WACONIA	210	207	98.57%
343	NORWOOD	44	38	86.36%
447	PRIOR LAKE	79	67	84.81%
580	CHANHASSEN	374	335	89.57%
601	NEW GERMANY	36	35	97.22%
643	SAVAGE	269	233	86.62%
1995	VICTORIA	11	11	100.00%
Total		1902	1738	91.38%

Grand Total 9636 8640 89.66%

COATES (Post at Large) 35 34 97.14%

>90%
80%-90%
>80%
100%

American Legion Night at the Twins

Department Officers and Staff, District Commanders and Adjutants, Committee Chairs, Baseball and Softball Committees,

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 we 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.

Candidates Sought for Minnesota American Legion Boys State

My name is Bob Dolan and I wanted to introduce myself as the Third District Boys State Chairman. As a past Boys State coordinator for Woodbury post 501 I am a firm supporter for this American Legion program. I am a graduate of the Boys State program in New York and thoroughly enjoyed my experience. You are immersed in learning how your government works in a classroom and hands on learning environment. Highlights of the week include political speakers, mock trials, campaigning, elections, and announcement of Boys State Governor and State Constitution Officers. Past Post 501 Boys State attendees all have come back from their experience raving about the program. In the past our Post had young men elected as the Minnesota Lt Government, Minnesota Secretary of State and the Mayor of St Paul. How fabulous.

This year's American Legion Boys State will be held June 8-14, 2025 on the campus of St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. Applicants for Boys State must be juniors in High School, be in the upper class scholastically at their school.

Over the last few years attendance at Boys State has dropped dramatically. If you have local High Schools students that are interested and your Post does not have the funds, \$350 per applicant, to support their attendance let me know. There are Posts in the Third District that have the funds to support, but do not have local candidates.



If your Post is interested in getting involved in the program you can find out the detailed information on the Boys State web site at: <http://www.mnboysstate.org/>

If you want to talk to me directly about Boys State you can call me at 703-851-5416 or drop me an email at woodburypost501@gmail.com

Please join us for the Third District Testimonial Dinner

Honoring
**Commander Joe Tappainer, President Tamara Thayer
and SAL Commander Dave Arend**

Sunday April 27th, 2025

Lonsdale Post 586, 115 2nd Ave SW, Lonsdale MN
55046

4:00 Social 5:00 Dinner Program to follow

Menu: Roast Beef and Chicken Buffet

Please detach and mail this portion with your check made out to:
Lonsdale Post 586 and mail to Amy Larsen, 115 2nd Ave SW,
Lonsdale MN 55046, no later than **April 21st**.

Dinner is \$25 x _____ = \$ _____

NAME: _____ Post/ Unit/ Sqd _____

NAME: _____ Post/ Unit/ Sqd _____

NAME: _____ Post/ Unit/ Sqd _____

NAME: _____ Post/ Unit/ Sqd _____

FREE DENTAL CLINIC FOR VETERANS!

FEBRUARY 18, 25, AND MARCH 4TH, 2025

Bringing Smiles to Veterans



When:

Feb 18 or 25
or March 4th, 2025

Where:

Rochester Community
and Technical College
851 30th Ave. SE,
Rochester, MN 55904

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. (appointments are limited so call now to schedule. Office is closed from Dec 19 - Jan 12 for school break.)

This Interprofessional Clinic will provide several services for veterans. 3rd District of the American Legion Auxiliary, will be teaming with the RCTC Dental Hygiene Students and Bridges Health, PC (a nonprofit organization) to provide free dental cleanings, x-rays, fluoride treatment, and exams. Also, included will be graduate nursing students and social work students from Bridges Health, PC working together to offer veterans resources for housing, food, preventative care, etc. if needed. Call the number on the tabs below and make your appointment for one of the 3 dates. If you need assistance with transportation please let Tammy Thayer know, 507-319-4349.

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169

Dental Cleaning
(507) 280-3169