The American Legion
Third District
Nathan Olson
District Adjutant

Follow Up, Lift Up

We Are on the web!
www.mnthunderingthird.org

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Dental Clinic Rochester, MN	7 Fall Family Gathering – Pine Island, MN
8	9	10 Marine Corps Birthday	11 Veterans Day	12	13 Dental Clinic Rochester, MN	14 Membership Phone Call Event Shakopee, MN
15	16	17	18	19	20 Beer, Wine, and Bourbon New Prague, MN	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					

Volume 12 Issue 4

The Commander's Corner

It’s November; Thanksgiving is almost here, and so is winter—like it or not.

November 11th is Veterans Day. As members of the Legion Family, at one time or another, we have attended, taken part in, or even helped plan a Veterans Day event. This year, like every year, I ask everyone to remember that it is our responsibility as Legionnaires to say thank you, honor, and support all those who are serving and who have served our country.

There are approximately 250 Minnesota National Guard members who are now deployed to the Middle East. Let us keep them and their families in our prayers.

I hope to see all of you—Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders—at the Fall Family Gathering at Pine Island Post 184 on November 7th.

Jim Entinger

3rd District Commander

Membership Update

Hello, Thundering Third Legion Family!

Happy Halloween! As I write this on the eve of Halloween, I want to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Halloween!

As we head into November, I want to start by wishing all my fellow veterans a Happy Veterans Day! Thank you for your service, your sacrifices, and your continued dedication to our communities and fellow veterans.

You all know that I spend a lot of time talking about recruiting new members, renewing our existing members, and strengthening our Posts. I also encourage everyone to brag about the great things your Post does for veterans, our youth, and your community. These are the things that make The American Legion strong and demonstrate our commitment to our Four Pillars.

But this month, I want to ask everyone to shift their focus for a couple of days.

Veterans Day Is a Time for Buddy Checks!

In May 2019, the National Executive Committee passed a resolution calling for all American Legion Posts to conduct Buddy Checks at least twice a year: once around The American Legion's birthday on March 15 and again around Veterans Day on November 11.

With Veterans Day approaching, I am asking every Post in our Thundering Third District to take a couple of days away from focusing on membership numbers and concentrate on checking in with our fellow veterans.

Especially remember our older veterans, those who live alone, those who may be struggling, and those we haven't seen or heard from in a while.

A Buddy Check doesn't have to be complicated. Sometimes all it takes is a phone call, a knock on the door, or a few minutes of conversation.

Ask them:
- How are you doing?
- Is there anything you need help with?
- Is there anything our Post can do for you?
- Would you like someone to stop by and visit?

And remember, Buddy Checks aren't just for American Legion members! Reach out to veterans in your community who may not belong to our organization. We should also remember our military families, surviving spouses, and others who could use a friendly call or visit.

This isn't about asking someone to renew their membership or join our Post. This is about letting them know that someone cares and that they have not been forgotten.

I am including a link to the National American Legion Buddy Check information and resources to help your Post get started.

National American Legion Buddy Check Resources:
https://www.legion.org/information-center/calendar/buddy-checks

Let's Make a Difference This Veterans Day!

I challenge every Post in District 3 to make Buddy Checks a priority around November 11. Get your officers and members involved. Divide up your contact lists, make some calls, and check on those veterans who might need a little extra attention.

You never know what a simple phone call or visit might mean to someone. It could make their day, and it might make a bigger difference than you realize.

Membership is important, but caring for our fellow veterans is why we are here in the first place!

Thank you for everything you do for your Post, your community, and our veterans.

Veterans Serving Veterans!

Joseph E. Bares
The American Legion
Department of Minnesota Sergeant-at-Arms
District 3 Membership Director

Calendar of Events

Nov 6 & 13 **Free Dental Clinic for Veterans** **Rochester, MN**
Call for Limited Appointments (507) 280-3169

Nov 7 **Fall Family Gathering** **Pine Island, MN**
Flyer included

Nov 10 **Marine Corps Birthday**

Nov 11 **Veteran's Day**

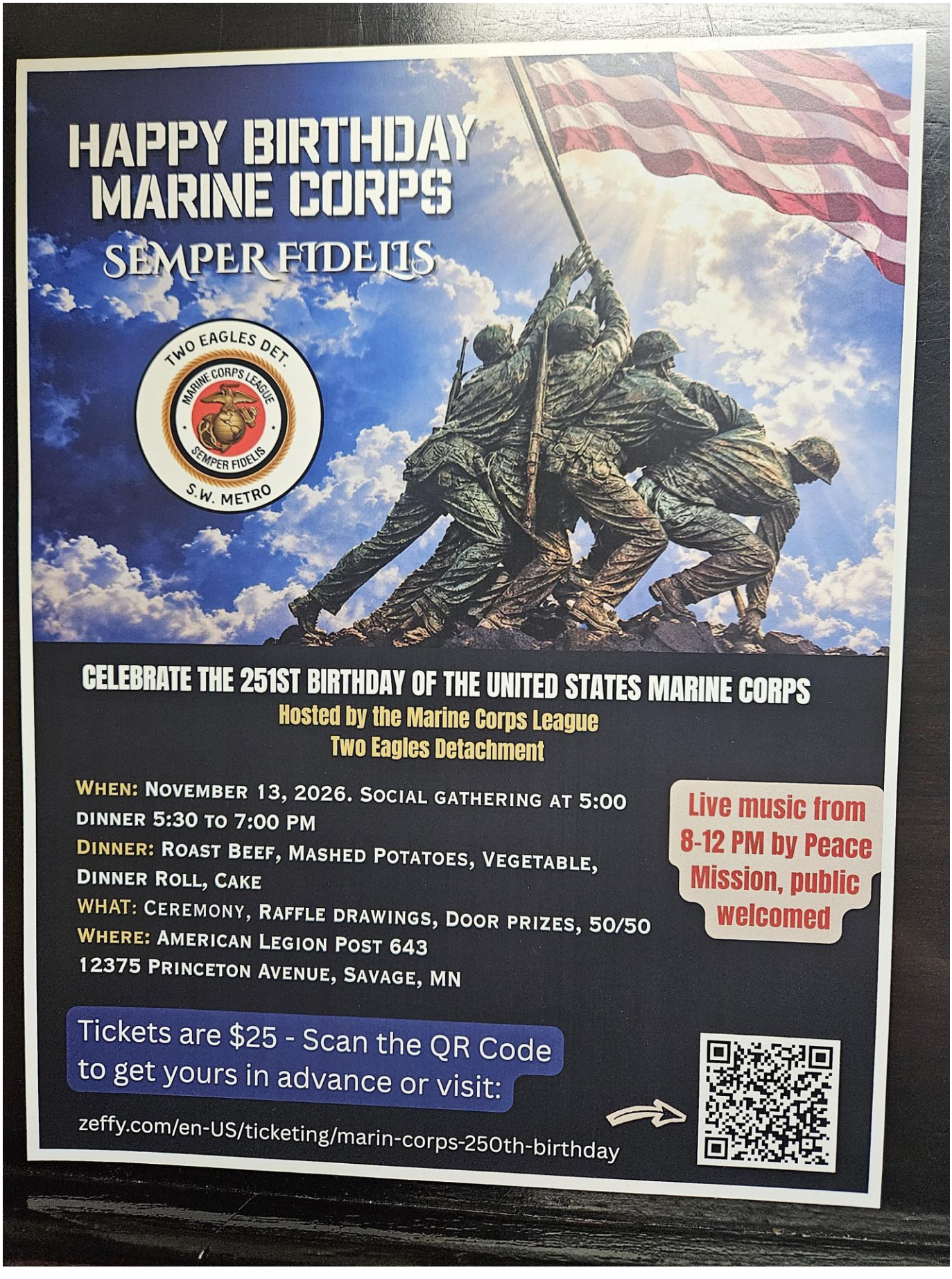
Nov 13 **Marine Corps Ball** **Savage, MN**
Flyer included

Nov 14 **Membership Phone Call Event** **Shakopee, MN**

Nov 20 **Beer, Wine, and Bourbon** **New Prague, MN**
Call Joni for Tickets 952-200-0206 and also available at the door.

Jan 16 **Mid-Winter Conference** **Eagan, MN**
Flyer included


AMERICAN LEGION
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
Third District
American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, SAL, & Riders
Fall Family GATHERING
NOVEMBER 7, 2026
11 AM - 2 PM
Guest Speaker
PAM KRILL
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
LUNCH COST
$15.00
PINE ISLAND POST 184
108 1ST AVE SE
PINE ISLAND MN 56963
RSVP to President Cavalene Regan
612/867/4248 or ALA100YRS@GMAIL.COM
Please pay at the door.


HAPPY BIRTHDAY
MARINE CORPS
SEMPER FIDELIS
TWO EAGLES DET.
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
SEMPER FIDELIS
S.W. METRO
CELEBRATE THE 251ST BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
Hosted by the Marine Corps League
Two Eagles Detachment
WHEN: NOVEMBER 13, 2026. SOCIAL GATHERING AT 5:00
DINNER 5:30 TO 7:00 PM
DINNER: ROAST BEEF, MASHED POTATOES, VEGETABLE,
DINNER ROLL, CAKE
WHAT: CEREMONY, RAFFLE DRAWINGS, DOOR PRIZES, 50/50
WHERE: AMERICAN LEGION POST 643
12375 PRINCETON AVENUE, SAVAGE, MN
Live music from 8-12 PM by Peace Mission, public welcomed
Tickets are $25 - Scan the QR Code to get yours in advance or visit:
zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/marin-corps-250th-birthday



2026 – 2027 Mid-Winter Conference

January 16, 2027

9:30am to 3pm

Eagan Community Center

1501 Central Parkway

Eagan, MN 55121

Registration and Lunch $25

To Register: https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2027-3rd-district-mid-winter

Or mail a check to:

Daniel R. Olen American Legion Post 594

3145 Lexington Ave So

P.O. Box 211488

Eagan, MN 55121

Questions? Please **contact:**

Mark Doble

952-393-7609 or commanderpost594

What is happening in the District:

Here is a picture with a couple of our Apple Valley Post 1776 Legionnaires with Jessica Lynch. Jessica was our guest speaker at the Department Fall Conference and provided us with a truly inspirational message.



Please send any upcoming events, or past events you are willing to share with the District. We always enjoy hearing good news.



Scouting America Update: Military Families Support Fund

Scouting America has launched the Military Families Support Fund, waiving the $85 national youth registration fee for children of Active-Duty military, Reserve, National Guard, and Gold Star families.

Here is the impact so far:

13,110+ waiver requests received in just the first four months.

7,000+ Scouts actively participating across 290 Packs, Troops, and Crews on military installations worldwide.

As fall membership grows, you can help support military families or learn more by visiting give.scouting.org/a/support-military-families.



Volunteer Opportunity: Scouting Chairperson

Our district is currently looking for a passionate volunteer to step into the role of Scouting Chairperson!

This is a fantastic opportunity to guide local youth, support family programs, and make a lasting impact in our community. If you love Scouting and want to help lead our district's efforts, please reach out to us for more details!

(Special thanks to Cindy Yanchury for sharing this update!)

For those living in LeSueur County here is the contact information of the new Veterans Service Officer.



District and Department Positions

Have you ever thought about getting more involved at the District or Department level of The American Legion? If so, please talk to District leadership.

Always Remember to check out additional events and happenings on

our website:

Home | American Legion MN Thundering Third District

Also Included is a link to the American Legion Department website:

The American Legion Department of Minnesota – Veterans strengthening America

Position Endorsements

Post 594 endorses Wayne Beierman for the position of Third District Commander for 2027-2028.
Post 594 endorses Barrett Kirchenwitz for the position of Third District Finance Officer for 2027-2028.

National Convention Endorsements

Post 3 endorses Joe Bares to attend the National Convention for 2027 in Kansas City, MO.
Post 45 endorses Mark Dvorak to attend the National Convention for 2027 in Kansas City, MO.
Post 45 endorses Mark Dvorak to attend the National Convention for 2027 in Kansas City, MO.
Post 594 endorses Mark Doble to attend the National Convention for 2027 in Kansas City, MO.

AMERICAN LEGION | ARMY NAVY

OFFICIAL VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA'S GAME

HONOR THE RIVALRY BY CHEERING ON YOUR TEAM!

The historic Army-Navy Game is one of the greatest rivalries in sports—and this year, we're giving our members a chance to experience it in person!

To honor the rivalry and strengthen our organization, we're launching a **Membership Incentive Challenge** that rewards those who help grow and sustain our membership. Here's how you can get in the game:

WE HAVE 16 TICKETS TO AWARD FOR THE ARMY-NAVY GAME.

8 WINNERS WILL EACH RECEIVE 2 TICKETS!

Top 3 recruiters OR an accumulation from a post from July 1 - November 11, 2026 will each receive 2 tickets.

Minimum qualification: recruit at least 10 new members.

The top department in each of our 5 regions (based on November's target date) will each earn 2 tickets to use within their department.

WINNERS WILL BE OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

Membership Reports

Area 1 Dale Jensen

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
37	ST. PETER	212	148	69.81%
55	LE SUEUR	39	27	69.23%
74	HENDERSON	35	22	62.86%
79	MONTGOMERY	103	79	76.70%
108	LE CENTER	234	178	76.07%
144	BELLE PLAINE	70	52	74.29%
149	MORRISTOWN	101	64	63.37%
207	CLEVELAND	59	41	69.49%
311	ELYSIAN	137	90	65.69%
380	KILKENNY	13	9	69.23%
433	GAYLORD	69	52	75.36%
510	NICOLLET	100	81	81.00%
518	NORTH MANKATO	219	163	74.43%
Total		1391	1006	72.32%

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Area 2

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
95	GLENCOE	74	54	72.97%
96	HUTCHINSON	393	287	73.03%
125	STEWART	36	22	61.11%
141	SILVER LAKE	157	123	78.34%
143	BROWNTON	54	45	83.33%
226	GIBBON	16	9	56.25%
250	ARLINGTON	31	26	83.87%
300	LAFAYETTE	44	28	63.64%
314	WINTHROP	50	38	76.00%
407	WINSTED	81	54	66.67%
408	GREEN ISLE	30	21	70.00%
463	LESTER PRAIRIE	32	12	37.50%
641	PLATO	18	14	77.78%
Total		1016	733	72.15%

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Area 3 Wayne Beierman

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
2	SHAKOPEE	141	102	72.34%
3	JORDAN	64	47	73.44%
45	NEW PRAGUE	188	131	69.68%
57	CHASKA	224	168	75.00%
84	NORTHFIELD	157	120	76.43%
121	WATERTOWN	45	41	91.11%
150	WACONIA	223	169	75.78%
343	NORWOOD	40	25	62.50%
580	CHANHASSEN	361	209	57.89%
601	NEW GERMANY	36	33	91.67%
1700	BURNSVILLE	46	44	95.65%
1776	APPLE VALLEY	756	484	64.02%
1995	VICTORIA	12	6	50.00%
13				
Total		2293	1579	68.86%

Area 4 Neil Hoadley

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
48	STILLWATER	132	80	60.61%
65	ROSEMOUNT	199	123	61.81%
98	ST. PAUL PARK	370	255	68.92%
225	FOREST LAKE	668	451	67.51%
424	INVER GROVE HTS.	56	39	69.64%
447	PRIOR LAKE	68	46	67.65%
491	BAYPORT	237	165	69.62%
501	WOODBURY	121	84	69.42%
507	MAHTOMEDI	36	25	69.44%
521	MENDOTA HEIGHTS	45	34	75.56%
620	HUGO	159	100	62.89%
643	SAVAGE	230	148	64.35%
Total		2321	1550	66.78%

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Area 5 Marissa Lacourt

Post	City	Goal	Current	Percent of Goal
43	FARIBAULT	314	233	74.20%
44	LAKEVILLE	92	65	70.65%
47	HASTINGS	259	181	69.88%
54	RED WING	370	276	74.59%
78	KENYON	46	32	69.57%
142	CANNON FALLS	120	74	61.67%
183	ZUMBROTA	39	31	79.49%
184	PINE ISLAND	94	68	72.34%
189	FARMINGTON	115	61	72.62%
586	LONSDALE	129	101	78.29%
594	EAGAN	203	141	69.46%
598	BELLECHESTER	61	57	93.44%
Total		1842	1320	71.66%

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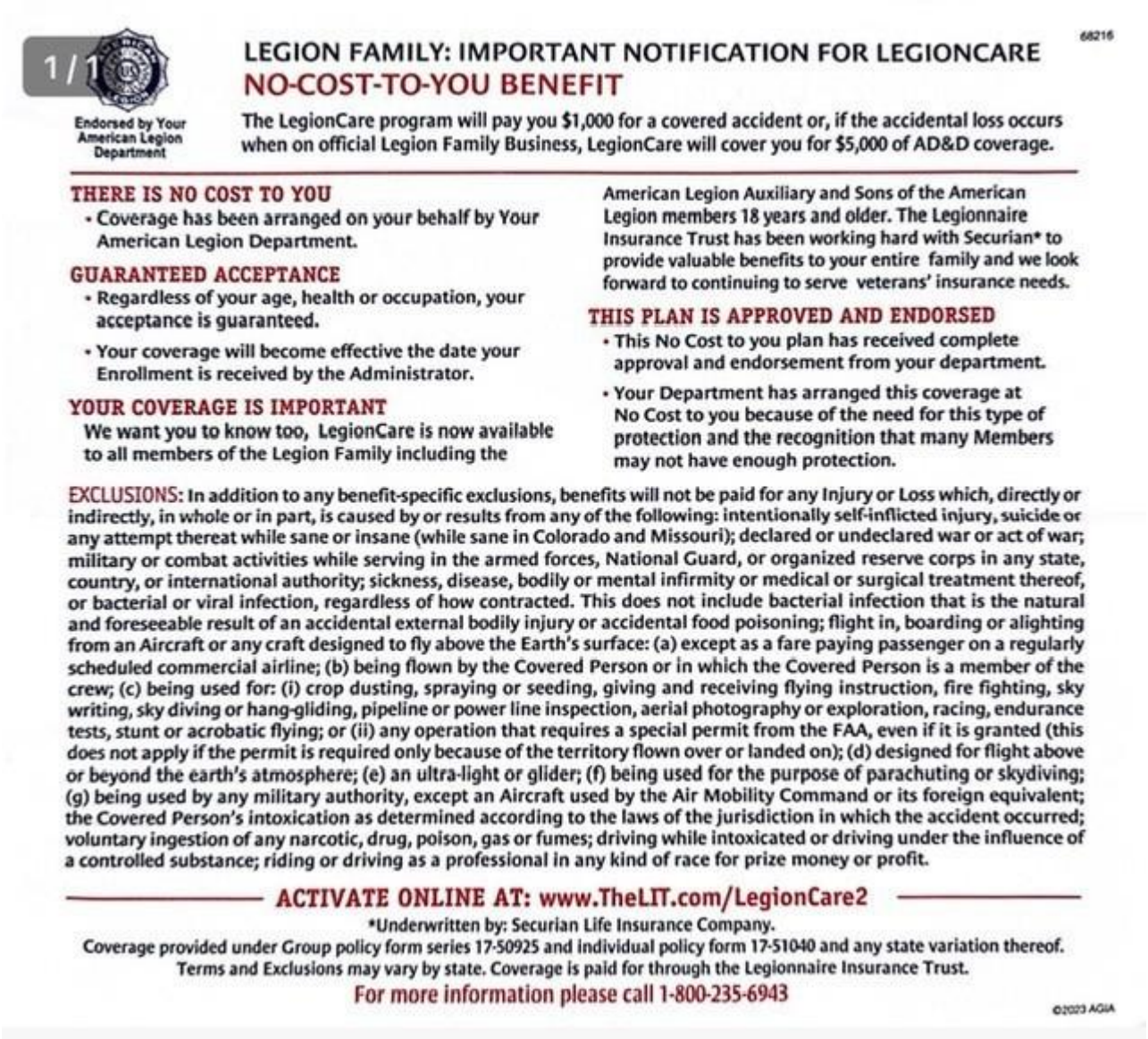
Grand Total	8878	6200	69.84%
COATES (Post at Large)	46	12	26.09%

	>60%
	50%-60%
	<50%
	100%

MN Dist 0003 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	Pufl	Rnwls	Tran	Total	Goal	% of Goal	Ret %
MN-0002	Shakopee	Shakopee	1	18	81	2	102	141	72.34	68.75
MN-0003	Robert Patterso	Jordan	3	5	39	0	47	64	73.44	69.84
MN-0037	William R Witty	St Peter	1	40	106	1	148	212	69.81	68.87
MN-0043	Faribault	Faribault	3	19	211	0	233	314	74.20	72.78
MN-0044	John Vessey	Lakeville	1	13	51	0	65	92	70.65	68.09
MN-0045	Charles Borak	New Prague	0	25	106	0	131	188	69.68	70.05
MN-0047	Nelson-Lucking	Hastings	3	47	131	0	181	259	69.88	67.68
MN-0048	Stillwater	Stillwater	0	24	55	1	80	132	60.61	59.85
MN-0054	Leo C Peterson	Red Wing	4	48	222	2	276	370	74.59	72.19
MN-0055	Le Sueur	Le Sueur	2	7	18	0	27	39	69.23	64.10
MN-0057	Chaska Inc	Chaska	1	100	67	0	168	224	75.00	76.26
MN-0065	Rosemount	Rosemount	2	21	100	0	123	199	61.81	59.41
MN-0074	Sibley	Henderson	0	2	20	0	22	35	62.86	64.71
MN-0078	Joseph A Gates	Kenyon	0	6	26	0	32	46	69.57	68.09
MN-0079	Montgomery	Montgomery	1	25	53	0	79	103	76.70	76.47
MN-0084	Northfield	Northfield	0	34	86	0	120	157	76.43	75.47
MN-0095	Glencoe	Glencoe	0	9	45	0	54	74	72.97	72.00
MN-0096	Hutchinson Inc	Hutchinson	0	103	184	0	287	393	73.03	73.21
MN-0098	Richard Dingle	S T Paul Pa	1	48	204	2	255	370	68.92	66.67
MN-0108	Le Center	Le Center	1	53	124	0	178	234	76.07	75.64
MN-0121	Eugene Earley	Watertown	1	2	38	0	41	45	91.11	90.91
MN-0125	De Gree-Fleisch	Stewart	0	1	21	0	22	36	61.11	62.86
MN-0141	Silver Lake	Silver Lake	0	34	89	0	123	157	78.34	77.36
MN-0142	Kraft-Ostrom	Cannon Fall	1	20	53	0	74	120	61.67	61.34
MN-0143	Edward Ewald	Brownton	2	9	34	0	45	54	83.33	81.13
MN-0144	Leo B Neubeise	Belle Plaine	0	9	43	0	52	70	74.29	73.24
MN-0149	Roy Leider	Morristown	2	14	48	0	64	101	63.37	58.49
MN-0150	Waconia	Waconia	6	45	118	0	169	223	75.78	71.49
MN-0183	Zumbrota Inc	Zumbrota	1	9	21	0	31	39	79.49	75.00
MN-0184	Charles Cowde	Pine Island	1	14	53	0	68	94	72.34	71.28
MN-0189	Clifford Larson	Farmington	0	14	47	0	61	84	72.62	72.62
MN-0207	Ray Keenan Inc	Cleveland	0	5	36	0	41	59	69.49	70.69

Here is a copy of the No Cost to You benefit arranged by our American Legion Department and being promoted to the all of the American Legion Family:



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68216

Endorsed by Your American Legion Department

LEGION FAMILY: IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION FOR LEGIONCARE

NO-COST-TO-YOU BENEFIT

The LegionCare program will pay you $1,000 for a covered accident or, if the accidental loss occurs when on official Legion Family Business, LegionCare will cover you for $5,000 of AD&D coverage.

THERE IS NO COST TO YOU

- Coverage has been arranged on your behalf by Your American Legion Department.

GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE

- Regardless of your age, health or occupation, your acceptance is guaranteed.
- Your coverage will become effective the date your Enrollment is received by the Administrator.

YOUR COVERAGE IS IMPORTANT

We want you to know too, LegionCare is now available to all members of the Legion Family including the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members 18 years and older. The Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been working hard with Securian* to provide valuable benefits to your entire family and we look forward to continuing to serve veterans' insurance needs.

THIS PLAN IS APPROVED AND ENDORSED

- This No Cost to you plan has received complete approval and endorsement from your department.
- Your Department has arranged this coverage at No Cost to you because of the need for this type of protection and the recognition that many Members may not have enough protection.

EXCLUSIONS: In addition to any benefit-specific exclusions, benefits will not be paid for any Injury or Loss which, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, is caused by or results from any of the following: intentionally self-inflicted injury, suicide or any attempt thereat while sane or insane (while sane in Colorado and Missouri); declared or undeclared war or act of war; military or combat activities while serving in the armed forces, National Guard, or organized reserve corps in any state, country, or international authority; sickness, disease, bodily or mental infirmity or medical or surgical treatment thereof, or bacterial or viral infection, regardless of how contracted. This does not include bacterial infection that is the natural and foreseeable result of an accidental external bodily injury or accidental food poisoning; flight in, boarding or alighting from an Aircraft or any craft designed to fly above the Earth's surface: (a) except as a fare paying passenger on a regularly scheduled commercial airline; (b) being flown by the Covered Person or in which the Covered Person is a member of the crew; (c) being used for: (i) crop dusting, spraying or seeding, giving and receiving flying instruction, fire fighting, sky writing, sky diving or hang-gliding, pipeline or power line inspection, aerial photography or exploration, racing, endurance tests, stunt or acrobatic flying; or (ii) any operation that requires a special permit from the FAA, even if it is granted (this does not apply if the permit is required only because of the territory flown over or landed on); (d) designed for flight above or beyond the earth's atmosphere; (e) an ultra-light or glider; (f) being used for the purpose of parachuting or skydiving; (g) being used by any military authority, except an Aircraft used by the Air Mobility Command or its foreign equivalent; the Covered Person's intoxication as determined according to the laws of the jurisdiction in which the accident occurred; voluntary ingestion of any narcotic, drug, poison, gas or fumes; driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence of a controlled substance; riding or driving as a professional in any kind of race for prize money or profit.

ACTIVATE ONLINE AT: www.TheLIT.com/LegionCare2

*Underwritten by: Securian Life Insurance Company.

Coverage provided under Group policy form series 17-50925 and individual policy form 17-51040 and any state variation thereof. Terms and Exclusions may vary by state. Coverage is paid for through the Legionnaire Insurance Trust.

For more information please call 1-800-235-6943

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For God and Country

The American Legion Thundering Third District