



**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](http://www.mnthunderingthird.org)

## April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Dept Cmdr Testimonial
6	7	8	9 95% Target Renewal Cutoff	10	11	12
13	14	15 Post Data Reports Due	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Legion College	25 Legion College	26 Legion College
27 Legion College Dist Testimonial	28	29	30			



# Volume 10 Issue 9

## **The Commanders Corner**

April is here and now we get to play with weather dice! Will it rain or will it snow? Will the temps be high or low? As a district we are sitting right at 90%. We need to be at 95% April 9th. We can do this! We are in 4th place but the distance between first and fourth place is so very close. Put the pedal to the metal and pour it on! The first thing everyone needs to do is call our members who have not renewed for 2025! We also need to call the 1982s & 1982ads and encourage them to transfer to a local post. I hope that many of you have got to see and spend some time with the National Commander. I would encourage each of you to get out of your post and attend a fall conference or the district and department conventions. Attend one and see what the legion is like outside of your post. I would challenge each of you to take the online “Basic Training” course located on the national legion website, which is free to everyone. This course teaches our history and what we stand for. The legion is so much more than a bar and a restaurant. Consider running for a district or department office. I was a post person but one weekend Carla and I attended a department conference. In two days, we made so many friends and learned more about the legion and the ways we could volunteer!

Be brave and get out and meet new people!!! Happy Easter!! God is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!!!

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**

Greetings Thundering Third Family! Recently in my morning devotion the topic of faithfulness and vulnerability was presented. The topic of faithfulness presents was presented in both “newness” and “fullness of years.” Newness, I understood right away, but “fullness of years?” Oh! The author was talking about those of us who are “well-seasoned” or may I just say it “older.” In our newness to something we may be full of enthusiasm and dedication. But when we see among those in the “fullness of years” brings hope and encouragement. Such dedication to our faith and to one another is a wonderful thing to see and experience.

I was reflecting on the topic of faithfulness later that day as I had spent nearly the entire day working on my duties as Adjutant for my local post. Back and forth went emails, text messages, phone calls, and one in-person meeting too. Exciting and dynamic new things are happening and I am caught up in the midst of it all and loving it.

But then, I’m new to that position and so everything has that feeling of “newness” to it. On Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, at the American Legion Family Gathering in St. Paul Park I heard Pat Hogan stand up toward the end of our gathering and with both the enthusiasm of “newness” and the encouragement of someone in the “fullness of years,” remind us that we were all there as LEADERS.

And then also very recently I ran into a member of our Post – someone with a fulltime job and who cares for four young people, getting them to and from all the various things that are part of their lives – he apologized profusely for not being able to make it to meetings. Newness meet fullness. My response was in this season of your life you are following the calling you have been given. When the time is right that will shift.

We all have the opportunity every day to approach our work, our family, our service to the American Legion Family and our very lives with both newness and fullness. Every day may you wake to give thanks for all that is before you. Every day may you approach what you are invited to and called to do with thanks and dedication (even the hard stuff). And every day may you close the day with hope and encouragement for what lies ahead tomorrow.

Holy One, this day we give thanks for those who have given of their time and talents to continue to serve as the leaders we need so that our family will thrive. 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**

<b>Apr 5</b>	<b>Department Cmdr Testimonial</b>	<b>Zimmerman Post 560</b>
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  
 Post 594 endorses Cindy Yanchury as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention  
 Post 491 endorses Pat Logan as a delegate to the 2025 National Convention

## **Position Endorsements**

3<sup>rd</sup> 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  
 Post 594 endorses Wayne Biermann for the Position of District Vice Commander for 2025-26  
 Post 594 endorses Barrett Kirchenwitz for the position of Finance Officer for 2025-26

**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](mailto:Third.district.Adjutant@gmail.com))**

## **Membership Update**

Thundering third our numbers are slowing down it's time to get it to high gear again. We are we are in fourth place behind second district. We have 90.87% and 2nd district is at 90.91%. I know we can beat them. I want to recognize Forest Lake Post 225 for now signing up 40 new members. Also, North Mankato for adding 20 new members. Talk to your local veterans and invite them to join your or any post. Also remember to do buddy checks just a simple phone call or text can make a huge difference in the life of a veteran.

Amy Larsen

3rd District Membership Director

## **SAL UPDATE**

Gentlemen,

Well, now that spring is here, it is time for reports and Convention. Now is the time to make sure that your Squadron CSR report, SAL Officer Reporting Form, and your Annual Squadron Data form is filled out and sent to Department. The Annual Squadron Data is a very important report that needs to be completed yearly. On this report, you will inform Detachment and National what your monthly dues are. Why is this important? Well, if you do not inform National of your dues cost, then they will arbitrarily set your dues to \$13.00 for online due renewal. This means that if anyone in your squad pays dues online, they will only pay \$13.00, not the amount that your Squadron has set. This report needs to be in to Detachment by April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Your Squadron CSR report needs to be in to the Detachment Adjutant before Detachment Convention June 27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>. That way they can be transmitted to National. You can also do this report online. You can find it at <https://www.legion.org/about/american-legion-family/sons-of-the-american-legion/publications-and-forms>. Then click on the Consolidated Squadron Report link.

After you have had your elections, your Adjutant should be filling out the Officer Reporting Form and sending that into Detachment. We would also ask that you send that to the District Adjutant, this way, that District knows who the officers are for the Squadrons in the District, and also how to be able to send out information.

Couple of Event dates for anyone interested in going.

April 5<sup>th</sup> at Northern Lights Casino, Department Commander Moon's Testimonial. Social hour starts at 1700 and dinner at 1800

April 9<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day on the Hill 2025. For more information, contact [Trent@davmn.org](mailto:Trent@davmn.org)

April 27<sup>th</sup> at Lonsdale American Legion, District Joint Testimonial. For more information, contact either the SAL District Adjutant or the Lonsdale post.

We also have District Convention coming up on May 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> at Forest Lake Post 225.

Have a great Spring,

Dave

## 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](mailto: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