



The American Legion
Third District
Linda Dvorak
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New Prague MN 56071

Every Veterans is a Treasure

We Are on the web!
www.mnthunderingthird.org

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day	12	13	14 100% Target	15	16 District Convention	17 District Convention
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Volume 10 Issue 10

DISTRICT CONVENTION

Registration is underway for the Third District Convention. Registration rate goes up on May 1 and room group rate at the various hotels will be held until May 1 as well.

PLEASE get your registrations in, it is very difficult for a Post to plan and prepare, when the numbers aren't in. This is our business meeting where elections and other business is done, you as members are highly encouraged to be a part of the decisions made.

The Commanders Corner

I hope this finds you well. We are in what I call the "Desert" of membership. No one wants to renew. We didn't make goal last month and we won't make it this month. We need to call those 1982s & 1982Ads and encourage them to transfer. On another note, it is the season of testimonials and district & department conventions. I would encourage each and every one of you to attend them, especially if you have never been to one. It is a time to see how the higher levels of the Legion work and to meet new people from other posts. I personally have made a lot of new friends over the years. I have also met people from posts that had some of the same problems that my post was having and see how they solved the problems. Get out and enjoy the sunshine and warmer weather!

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

As I write this month's article the Legion Family has not yet met for the district testimonial. I will be away at the International Conference of Police Chaplains. Serving my community as a Police Chaplain is a blessing and privilege. But because I couldn't be among you, I wanted to take a moment to thank Commander Tappainer for inviting to serve as your district chaplain for the past year. I would be remiss if I also didn't thank Jim Ettinger, who has with joy and faithfulness agreed to step in when I couldn't be among you. Thank you as well to all of the district officers who have served so well. I have learned so much from y'all and look forward to many more years of service to this American Legion Family I have grown to love.

"Still Serving." It's more than a motto, more than a mere phrase that looks good on a brochure, or newsletter or even a giant billboard. It is who we are called to be. When I retired from active ministry I wondered. What is next God? To what am I being called? These are the questions we ask ourselves, retired or not. With my Confirmation students I always asked a few more question in addition to those two. What kind of human do you want to be? How are you going to show up in the world?

No matter our age or stage in life, these can be the daily questions we ask ourselves. How are you/how am I showing up today? Where can I be put to use? Many years ago, an elderly parishioner said to me that I was always inviting people to serve in this or that ministry. She told me she could no longer do any of those things. My reply? Will you pray for the ministries of this church? Will you pray for me as I seek to lead faithfully? "Oh, I already do that," she exclaimed.

So let's do that – for each other and for ourselves. And keep serving...wherever it is you are being called.

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), 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

May 16-17	District Convention	Forest Lake Post 225
June	Membership Card Pick-up	To Be Determined
Jul 10-12	Department Convention	Willmar Convention Center

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

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
 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)

Membership Update

No update this month.

SAL UPDATE

Happy May,

First off, let me take a second to congratulate Hugo on finally getting all their membership turned in and working with the Detachment Membership Director in getting their membership squared away.

As of the last Membership update the only squadron below 50% is Waconia (48.65%). Everyone else is above 60% with most Squads sitting above 80%. Congratulations should go to New Prague sitting at 220%. Well done. They increased their membership from 18 to 44 members. Currently we have 11 Squadrons at or above 100%. New Prague (220%) Chaska (100.68%) Rosemount (167.86%) St Paul Park (103.53%) Silver Lake (104.17%) Cleveland (105.45%) Forest Lake (106.70%) Elysian (109.68%) Chanhassen (102.63%) Bellechester (100.00%) and Coates (100.00%). Great job to all the members of these squadrons for the hard work on membership.

Nominations and Elections should be over now; this means that we have all the new and returning Officers getting ready to either continue doing what they have or getting ready to start doing a new and exciting job. For all the returning officers, Congratulations. For all the new officers, Congratulations on your new job, don't be afraid to ask question. Remember, if you cannot find the answer at the post or squad level, we at the District are always ready to lend a hand. Hopefully all the Squadrons have a full or mostly full complement of Officers. For those Squadrons that do not, please start or continue to look for candidates that would like to fill the open positions. Remember, you need a quorum of officers to conduct business. If you do not have a quorum, then you cannot legally be conducting business as a Squadron.

Thats all for now, and since it is May, May the 4th be with you.

Have a great Spring,

Dave

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.

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