THE MIGHTY 1ST DISTRICT FAMILY NEWSLETTER

The American Legion Department of Minnesota
October 2026

Commander
Myron Ehrich
507-259-5261

President
Wanda Prescher
507-254-0304

SAL Commander
Josh Erickson
507-313-5861

ALR Director
Wes Halverson
507-383-7983

Veterans Crisis Line
988 Press 1 for live chat or text
838255

Minnesota Legion Depart Office
651-291-1800

Minnesota ALA Office
651-224-7634



OCTOBER

Program Awareness: Launch the membership campaign. Remember, dues for the following year are payable by Oct. 20. Organize and participate in Halloween safety programs. Get information on contests, scholarships and awards for next year's convention.

Date	Event	Location	Time	Contact	Info
3	District Fall Rally	Adams Post 146	10		321 W Main St, Adams, MN 55909
3-4	Zgoda DAV Turkey Hunt	Legionville			
5-8	National Fall Mtgs	Indianapolis			
22	Blood Drive	Dept Conf	12-5		
22	First District Social	Dept Conf		Commander	
22-24	Dept of MN Fall Conf	St Cloud			Rivers Edge Convention Center

NOVEMBER

Post/Unit/ Squadron/Chapter Development: Take time to recognize members and thank volunteers. Find out what members would like to do in the coming months. Review the CPR/CSR to see what needs attention. Do internal training on duties & responsibilities.

Date	Event	Location	Time	Contact	Info
2	Election Day	Communities			Do your part, vote!
11	Veteran's Day Observance	Duluth Nat'l Guard Trng & Comm Ctr	8:30		4015 Airpark Blvd. Free Breakfast. Program at 11

DECEMBER

Seeing the Unseen: Acknowledge Pearl Harbor Day on Dec. 7. As the holiday season begins, encourage and support activities that bring Christmas cheer to underprivileged families in the community. Keep plugging for renewals and new members. Visit veterans who are ill or in assisted living facilities.

Date	Event	Location	Time	Contact	Info
5	Pearl Harbor Rally	Brewster Post 464	11	ALR Dir.	Online registration can be found at mnlegion.org - $20.00
13	District Christmas Party	Preston Veteran's Home			



Members of the 1st District American Legion Family....

After a great deal of consideration...I have decided that after the occurrence of certain things, it is time to publish the following Statement:

As per discussion with Department personnel, I have found out the District Commander has the final word about what articles are printed in the District Newsletter. If an article does not meet the Standards of the District- it will not be published.... period!

Newsletter Submission Reminder



All articles must be submitted by the 26th of each month.



Any submissions received after that date—without prior communication to Michelle regarding the delay—will not be included in that month's newsletter.



Newsletter items should be emailed to

bigredonenewsletter@gmail.com



There will not be a July newsletter.
Per the District Legion Bylaws, the District publishes 11 newsletters per year, August through June.

Thank you for helping us keep our District communications timely and organized.

The 1st District Leadership

The opinions and viewpoints expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the individual authors. They do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the 1st District American Legion Family, the Department of Minnesota American Legion Family, or the National American Legion Family. Inclusion of any article, announcement, or advertisement does not constitute endorsement.

American Legion
Around the District

SERVICE ★ COMMUNITY ★ VETERANS ★ FAMILY



Commander Myron and his wife Mary, Mary Hanson, SAL Commander Josh Erickson and his cousin Connie at the SAL 595 Omelet Breakfast.



Sy Fix and Michelle Weaver catching up at the SAL 595 Omelet Breakfast.



District President Wanda attended Unit 595 meeting to present a certificate to **Serenity Taulbee** for second place in the Americanism Essay contest.

INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH ★ HONORING OUR VETERANS
STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES

1st District Legion Contacts

AMERICAN LEGION

Veterans ★ Defense ★ Youth ★ Americanism ★ Communities

Commander

Myron Enrich
507-259-5261
ehrichmyron@gmail.com

Adjutant

Deb Williamson
816-807-2362
adjutantmnmightyfirst@gmail.com

Membership

Mary Hanson
507-440-3606
mfhanson52@charter.net

Chaplain

Empty

Area One Vice Commander

Richard Grobe
507-295-5665
richardgrobe4@gmail.com

Area Two Vice Commander

Richard W Klindworth Jr.
507-358-0019
richardklindworth475@gmail.com

Area Three Vice Commander

Sy Fix
507-313-3376
papafixone@gmail.com

Area Four Commander

Mary Hanson
507-440-3606
mfhanson52@charter.net

MINNESOTA DISTRICT 1 ONE FIRST IN SERVICE

POW★MIA YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

AMERICAN LEGION US

From the Desk of The Commander

LEADERSHIP ★ SERVICE ★ VETERANS ★ COMMUNITY



- The year is moving right along. District Fall Rally will be **October 3rd in Adams**. Later in October we will be attending Department Fall Conference.
- About the gift card request that some of you may have received from me it was not me and should be ignored.
- On the good side I attended the **Post 330 Hayfield membership supper on Sept 8th** and had very good time. Department Commander Pam Krill also attended.
- Also attended **Grand Meadow Post 140** membership dinner.
- I had the pleasure to be at the **Rochester airport** to welcome home the **honor flight**. A wonderful even to have in the 1st District. thank you to Nancy and Denny Lewison for all the work you do arranging these flights.

For God and Country

Commander Myron

DISTRICT FALL RALLY

★ OCTOBER 3RD IN ADAMS

DEPARTMENT FALL CONFERENCE

★ LATER IN OCTOBER ★







Chaplain's Corner

October is the month of awareness of growth and future

Pillar 4: Children & Youth

God, we lift our children as they are gifts from you and they are our future. Guide us to know how to mentor, love and protect them so they grow strong in faith, loyalty, dedication, skills and courage.

Children & Youth Scholarships

★ **Get the word out to local schools about available scholarships.** ★

Department of Minnesota

- **Memorial Scholarship:** General undergraduate scholarship
- **Minnesota American Legion Foundation Scholarship:** General undergraduate scholarship
- **Minnesota American Legion Nurses Training Scholarship:** For students pursuing nursing or allied health fields

National Opportunities

In addition to our state-based awards, students may apply for national-level scholarships through The American Legion.
For a full list of those opportunities, visit the National Scholarship page.

- Samsung
- Legacy
- Baseball
- Oratorical
- Eagle Scout of the Year
- Jr Shooting Sports
- ANAVICUS





Adjutant's Corner

Serve
Support
Remember
Together

As everyone knows, fall is here and so is more functions, family obligations, football, and hunting season. So much to do, including getting registered for some important events. Things to get on your calendar include:

District Fall Rally – Adams

OCT 3

Obviously, Oct 3rd is almost tomorrow, so you can't preregister for our Fall Rally in Adams, and that's okay! No one has. Register at the door, $10 for the event, $10 for the meal. One crisp 20 is beautiful.

Register at the door!
$10 Event
$10 Meal

Dept. Fall Conference – St. Cloud

OCT 22-24

You can still register online at https://www.mnlegion.org/fall-conference. There will be a blood drive from noon to 5 p.m. The Dept DEC and some committees will meet Thursday evening. Oct. 22, the First District will have a social gathering (tbd where right now). If you attend the conference, come be social.

St. Cloud

Halloween – October 31



While not a Legion date, it is a good day to honor our 4th Pillar, Children and Youth. Help them be safe. And if you're not a kid person, just so happens Henderson-Lewis Post 545 in Spicer is having a Spicy Halloween with a costume contest (11 p.m.). The Old Man Cover Band is performing, 8 – midnight, no cover charge.

SPICY HALLOWEEN
Henderson-Lewis
Post 545 – Spicer
Costume Contest 11 p.m.
The Old Man Cover Band
8 – Midnight
No Cover Charge

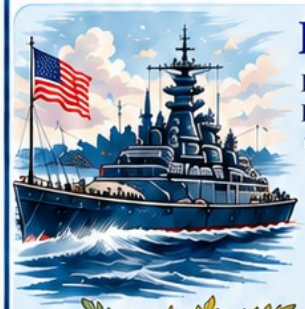
Veteran's Day – November 11



Duluth National Guard (4015 Airpark Blvd, Duluth MN) will be hosting an observance. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. There is a free breakfast and the program begins at 10 a.m.

VETERANS DAY

Pearl Harbor Rally – December 5



Hosted by the Minnesota American Legion Riders at Brewster American Legion Post 464. Registration is $20.00 (covers meal). Online registration can be found at mnlegion.org under "Events" then "Pearl Harbor Rally" and use Zeffy (no processing fees).

Or mail your registration (Name, Post, Unit, Squadron, or Chapter you're representing) and $20.00. Make check payable to Minnesota American Legion Riders. Mail to:

Minnesota American Legion Riders
C/O Duane Mabon-State Director ALR
409 W. Harrison St.
Luverne, MN 56156

PEARL HARBOR RALLY

District Christmas Party – December 13

At Preston Veteran's Home. More to come.

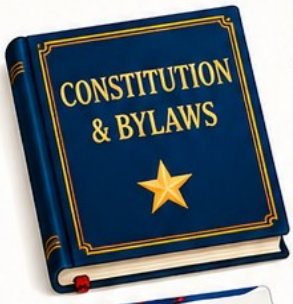
Save the Date

Families get together, support each other, set examples for the youth in the family.
Let's make this season of food, pies, cider and other enjoyments a season for each other too.

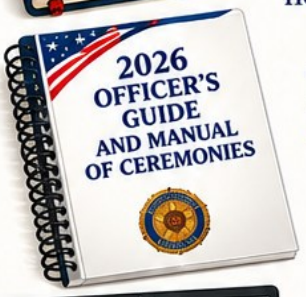
From the Desk of
Area 4 Legion Vice Commander
Mary Hanson

Hi Legionnaires,

I am doing the rounds of post visits in Area 4. The posts are very welcoming, and some have had food. Always, a win in my book. My visits will continue until all posts are visited. We are looking for members to step up and take on bigger roles in the 1st District.



Do you know where your constitution and bylaws are? Have they been reviewed lately? Don't wait until there is dissension in your post and you don't know what to do next. **The constitution and bylaws are reviewed and approved by the post membership.** It lays out the rules in governing your post. If nobody seems to know where they are we can help set up new ones. Don't wait for a crisis.



The **2026 Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies** is available on legion.org for anyone to review and/or download. This guide has so much information in it. From Legion history, how to run a post meeting to ceremonies. Too many topics to cover here. Another great resource. Please review.



Want to learn more about the American Legion and the Four Pillars? Take the Basic Training Course on legion.org. It is open to all American Legion Family members. Another great source of information.

Please reach with any questions or comments.

For God and Country.

Mary Hanson

1st District Area 4 Vice Commander

AMERICAN LEGION Membership NEWS & UPDATES

VETERANS ★ COMMUNITY ★ SERVICE ★ LEGION FAMILY

SERVING VETERANS
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES
BUILDING TOMORROW

Hi Legionnaires,

★ As of 9/24/2026 the 1st District is in **6th place** in the Department membership race. It means that there are 5 districts working harder at membership than we are. We have three months until the end of the 2026 membership year. Contacting non renewals and bringing in new members will help you get closer to the 100% goal and a huge start to 2027. Do not let these members walk out the door. Get out your rosters and start calling. If you need an updated roster, just let me know.

1st DISTRICT IS IN 6TH PLACE IN THE DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP RACE
(as of 9/24/2026)

★ Please review the attached report and see where your post is at. We need to get everyone on board to get the job done.

★ Contact me with any questions, comments or concerns.

★ Thank you for your service and what you do for the American Legion.

Mary Hanson
1st District Membership Director

- ✓ CONTACT NON RENEWALS
- ✓ BRING IN NEW MEMBERS
- ✓ REACH OUR 100% GOAL
- ✓ BUILD A STRONG 2027

MEMBERSHIP TODAY STRONGER TOMORROW

VETERANS
COMMUNITY
SERVICE
LEGION FAMILY

The American Legion, Dept of MN, First District 2027 Membership Report for September 24, 2026

Dist	Post	Location	New 2027	PUFL 2027	Online 2027	Trad 2027	Paid 2027	HQ Trans 2027	Total Membr 2027	Goal 2027	% of Goal	HQ Trans 2025	Last yr at this date
1	9	Winona	1	31	0	275	307	2	309	452	68.36%	0	0
1	90	Lewiston	0	9	0	5	14	0	14	75	18.67%	0	0
1	190	St Charles	0	13	0	46	59	0	59	85	69.41%	0	0
1		**Winona County**	1	53	0	326	380	2	382	612	62.42%	0	0
1	50	Wabasha	0	39	0	77	116	0	116	174	66.67%	0	0
1	110	Lake City	4	16	0	85	105	0	105	152	69.08%	0	0
1	179	Plainview	1	22	0	71	94	0	94	130	72.31%	0	0
1	546	Kellogg	0	5	0	24	29	0	29	46	63.04%	0	0
1	573	Elgin	0	3	0	1	4	0	4	28	14.29%	0	0
1	579	Millville	1	17	0	60	78	0	78	106	73.58%	0	0
1	588	Mazeppa	0	8	0	28	36	0	36	56	64.29%	0	0
1		**Wabsha County**	6	110	0	346	462	0	462	692	66.76%	0	0
1	92	Rochester	4	69	0	316	389	3	392	654	59.94%	0	0
1	119	Byron	2	14	0	69	85	0	85	114	74.56%	0	0
1	164	Stewartville	1	22	0	166	189	0	189	265	71.32%	0	0
1	446	Rochester	0	2	0	1	3	0	3	12	25.00%	0	0
1	551	Eyota	1	23	0	96	120	0	120	168	71.43%	0	0
1		**Olmsted County**	8	130	0	648	786	3	789	1213	65.05%	0	0
1		**Area One**	15	293	0	1320	1628	5	1633	2517	64.88%	0	0
1	295	West Concord	0	6	0	3	9	0	9	35	25.71%	0	0
1	330	Hayfield	0	13	0	110	123	0	123	171	71.93%	0	0
1	333	Kasson	0	28	0	107	135	0	135	205	65.85%	0	0

1	384	Dodge Center	1	8	0	25	34	0	34	53	64.15%	0	0
1	422	Claremont	0	3	0	19	22	0	22	27	81.48%	0	0
1		**Dodge County**	1	58	0	264	323	0	323	491	65.78%	0	0
1	52	Blooming Prairie	0	16	0	31	47	1	48	73	65.75%	0	0
1	77	Owatonna	1	47	0	159	207	1	208	342	60.82%	0	0
1	296	Ellendale	1	4	0	29	34	0	34	41	82.93%	0	0
1		**Steel County**	2	67	0	219	288	2	290	456	63.60%	0	0
1	75	New Richland	0	8	0	17	25	0	25	39	64.10%	0	0
1	228	Waseca	1	20	0	139	160	0	160	228	70.18%	0	0
1	281	Janesville	0	3	0	41	44	0	44	63	69.84%	0	0
1	587	Waldorf	0	0	0	11	11	0	11	19	57.89%	0	0
1		**Waseca County**	1	31	0	208	240	0	240	349	68.77%	0	0
		Area Two	4	156	0	691	851	2	853	1296	65.82%	0	0
1	40	Lanesboro	0	11	0	46	57	0	57	99	57.58%	0	0
1	68	Spring Valley	0	6	0	31	37	0	37	51	72.55%	0	0
1	81	Harmony	0	0	0	14	14	0	14	19	73.68%	0	0
1	94	Rushford	0	9	0	49	58	0	58	93	62.37%	0	0
1	166	Preston	2	14	0	23	39	0	39	46	84.78%	0	0
1	197	Chatfield	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	36	5.56%	0	0
1	299	Mabel	5	25	0	84	114	0	114	140	81.43%	0	0
1	369	Wykoff	0	0	0	9	9	0	9	14	64.29%	0	0
1	400	Canton	0	0	0	7	7	0	7	21	33.33%	0	0
1	492	Fountain	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	9	11.11%	0	0
1	526	Peterson	1	4	0	22	27	0	27	30	90.00%	0	0
1	544	Ostrander	0	1	0	12	13	0	13	18	72.22%	0	0
1	637	Whalan	0	0	0	6	6	0	6	7	85.71%	0	0

1		**Fillmore County**	8	72	0	304	384	0	384	583	65.87%	0	0
1	191	Caledonia	0	9	0	74	83	0	83	109	76.15%	0	0
1	249	Spring Grove	0	10	0	47	57	0	57	118	48.31%	0	0
1	423	Houston	1	9	0	39	49	0	49	95	51.58%	0	0
1	498	Hokah	0	1	0	14	15	0	15	18	83.33%	0	0
1	595	LaCrescent	1	36	0	79	116	0	116	191	60.73%	0	0
1		**Houston County**	2	65	0	253	320	0	320	531	60.26%	0	0
1		**Area Three**	10	137	0	557	704	0	704	1114	63.20%	0	0
1	56	Albert Lea	2	35	0	223	260	1	261	390	66.92%	0	0
1	264	Glenville	1	11	0	41	53	0	53	79	67.09%	0	0
1	266	Hartland	1	1	0	11	13	0	13	14	92.86%	0	0
1	317	Emmons	3	3	0	19	25	0	25	39	64.10%	0	0
1	404	Alden	2	2	0	28	32	0	32	68	47.06%	0	0
1	552	Freeborn	0	4	0	2	6	0	6	28	21.43%	0	0
1		**Freeborn County**	9	56	0	324	389	1	390	618	63.11%	0	0
1	91	Austin	0	38	0	133	171	0	171	311	54.98%	0	0
1	105	Lyle	1	8	0	23	32	0	32	65	49.23%	0	0
1	140	Grand Meadow	0	4	0	9	13	0	13	29	44.83%	0	0
1	146	Adams	0	15	0	66	81	0	81	126	64.29%	0	0
1	161	LeRoy	0	4	0	19	23	0	23	41	56.10%	0	0
1	570	Austin Spam	0	0	0	8	8	0	8	13	61.54%	0	0
1		**Mower County**	1	69	0	258	328	0	328	585	56.07%	0	0
1		**Area Four**	10	125	0	582	717	1	718	1203	59.68%	0	0
1	1111	Dakota	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0
1		**District Totals**	39	711	0	3150	3900	8	3908	6130	63.75%	0	0

		Vice Commanders											
		Area One	15	293	0	1320	1628	5	1633	2517	64.88%	0	0
		Area Two	4	156	0	691	851	2	853	1296	65.82%	0	0
		Area Three	10	137	0	557	704	0	704	1114	63.20%	0	0
		Area Four	10	125	0	582	717	1	718	1203	59..68%	0	0

The American Legion Department of Minnesota 2027 9-24-2026 District Membership Report

Dist	Rank												
1	6th	Myron Ehrich	39	711	0	3150	3900	8	3908	6130	63.75%		
2	4th	Dennis Strassburg	31	488	0	2631	3150	1	3151	4862	64.81%		
3	3rd	James Entiger	74	1421	0	4265	5,760	21	5,781	8,878	65.12%		
4	1st	Daniel Bronk	23	232	0	698	953	0	953	1,445	65.95%		
5	8th	Carl Lundin	8	216	0	518	742	4	746	1188	62.79%		
6	2nd	Anthony Koop	68	969	0	4624	5661	47	5,708	8,741	65.30%		
7	7th	Carl Wilson	32	551	0	2208	2791	2	2793	4,436	62.96%		
8	5th	Steven Birkemeyer	47	266	0	1410	1723	7	1730	2708	63.88%		
9	9th	Dennis Henkemeyer	31	451	0	2314	2796	8	2804	4603	60.92%		
10	10th	Tom Olson	59	825	0	2842	3726	12	3738	6551	57.06%		
99			0	188	0	715	903	0	905	1858	48.55%		
Totals			412	6318	0	25,375	32,105	110	32,217	51,400	62.68%		

Glenville Post 264
Membership Dinner

Legion Family teamwork turns one dinner into a membership success!







A Great Night of Legion Family Fellowship

Glenville Post 264 recently held its Membership Dinner, and the great turnout showed just what can happen when the entire Legion Family comes together. All four branches joined in the evening, creating a welcoming event centered on fellowship, community and membership.

The Auxiliary prepared a great dinner and, when the food began to run out, somehow "magically" made more appear! The meal was free to Post members, while members of the community were invited to purchase a meal — and they did.

50% SAL RENEWALS

43 of 85 MEMBERS RENEWED

3 NEW MEMBERS

Membership Success

Three SAL board members were on hand to take membership renewals. In this single event, 43 of 85 SAL members renewed — reaching 50% of the Squadron's renewals — and 3 new members were signed up.

Contributions were also made to the Poppy Memory Tree, adding another meaningful element to a successful evening of service and fellowship.

Food • Fellowship • Membership

A strong Legion Family event can build community while strengthening membership.

CONGRATULATIONS, GLENVILLE POST 264!

A wonderful example of the Legion Family working together to recruit, renew and rally members.

Submitted by Scott Kallberg
The Mighty 1st District Family Newsletter

The First District
Department of Minnesota
The American Legion

Proposed Constitution & Bylaw Changes

Will be discussed and voted on at First District Convention 2027

Constitution Revision 6 states

GRAMMAR AND SPELLING CORRECTIONS

- Make Grammar changes throughout to make document tense consistent.
  - Rationale: make document read proactive not reactive.
- Add 'classes and the' to Preamble to make it correct.
  - Rationale: was, "to combat the autocracy of both the masses;"

ARTICLE IV - ELIGIBILITY

Proposed Change:

Section 1: The LEGION Act offers American Legion membership eligibility to any U.S. military veteran who served at least one day of active military duty since Dec. 7, 1941, and was honorably discharged or is serving now.

> ***Rationale: Per The American Legion membership page and the LEGION Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-35), "If you have served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and were honorably discharged or you are still serving active military duty honorably, you are eligible for membership with The American Legion."***

Bylaws Revision 6 states

GRAMMAR AND SPELLING CORRECTIONS

- Make Grammar changes throughout to make document tense consistent.
  - Rationale: make document read proactive not reactive.

10) Eligibility

Proposed Change:

Second Paragraph: District Officers, elected and appointed, shall present documentation of an honorable discharge or proof of separation.

Rationale: IRS Letter TEGE-04-1113-21 dated 26 Nov 2013 and correspondence from Mark Seavey, National Judge Advocate, these documents are not to be kept any longer once eligibility is proven due to privacy laws.

12) Remote Communication

Proposed Change:

Meetings can be held via electronic means if members have a reasonable need to be absent. The Commander and Adjutant will determine the need for this.

The Technology Team, along with the Public Relations team, should form a committee to determine how Rallies, Conferences and Conventions can be properly streamed or recorded, ensuring privacy laws are followed.

Rationale: When the original bylaw was written, a pandemic was happening and virtual was the only way to keep things going. Now that we're past it, it's time to get back to in person. While there are valid times people cannot be present and adjustments should be made; the general rule for an action-oriented organization is presence. One reason participation is due to the fact that people are not present.

REGULATIONS GUIDELINES FOR FIRST DISTRICT FUNCTIONS

COMMANDERS AND ADJUTANTS SCHOOL

Proposed Change:

Officer Training

All District Officers are strongly encouraged to attend MN Legion College at the first possible opportunity if they have not already done so. All post officers are also encouraged to do the same; or, at a minimum, complete the online Basic Training Course of The American Legion.

Rationale: Redundancy consumes resources.

MID-WINTER

Proposed Changes:

1. Registration of $10 and meal prices of $15 are to be reviewed by the District Legion Executive Committee. The number of attendees at the previous year's event and the cost of goods can be reconsidered if modest changes (up or down) are warranted.
2. As this is hosted by the Auxiliary, the Auxiliary Public Relations committee will handle programs, flyers, etc.
3. Legionnaires, Sons, and Riders will help in any facet requested and capable.
   a. Each group facilitating sessions, i.e., meeting or training separately, is responsible for their own agenda, minutes, etc., for that segment.

Rationale:

1. Prices removed so economic conditions could be considered when setting the prices.

2 & 3 Added to help facilitate returning responsibilities that had been taken on by a pervious adjutant to help others out.

SECTION G

Registration

Proposed Change:

SECTION G-Registration

For planning purposes, all attendees must register at least 14 calendar days prior to Convention start.

1. All attendees must be in good standing with their membership and will present proof of current membership at sign in.
2. National, Department or visiting District Officers are not charged. Registration is for paperwork purposes only.
3. Distinguished Guest Chairman shall provide the registration table with an updated list.
4. Registration is $15.00 if pre-registered; $20.00 at the door.
5. Sign-in / registration will be at a convenient location for attendees and determined by the District Executive Committee.
    a. Registration monies offsets cost of Convention Badge, Convention Brochure and any other information deemed appropriate.
    b. One registration per person, regardless of number of memberships.

Rationale: Clarity

SECTION J

District Convention Noon Luncheon

Proposed Change:

1. The Host Post arranges lunch. Lunch is $15; however, it is to be the District Legion Executive Committee and based on the number of attendees at the previous year's event and the cost of goods, can be reconsidered if modest changes (up or down) are warranted. The District Commander shall act as the Master of Ceremonies.

Rationale: The last two years the Convention has cost more than brought in, mainly because of meals. With this change, the host post won't have to foot the bill, which discourages posts from volunteering as host.


AMERICAN LEGION
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
Veterans
Families
Community
Together
Always
First District
AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
Fall Rally
PASS THE WORD TO ALL POST MEMBERS!
VETERANS ★ FAMILIES ★ COMMUNITY ★ TOGETHER
DATE:
October 3rd
2026
LOCATION:
Adams Post 146
321 W Main St,
Adams, MN 55909
ALL ARE WELCOME!
SCHEDULE
Executive Board Meeting
9:00 AM – 9:55 AM
General Session
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
AT THE DOOR
Registration — $10.00
Lunch — $10.00
Come for the business, stay for the fellowship!
Service
Support
Educate
Advocate
Remember
Same
Mission
Brighter
Tomorrows
Honoring Our Past
Supporting Our Present
Building Our Future
Good Friends
Great Conversations
Stronger Together
Micki's Cozy Corner
VETERANS ★ FAMILIES ★ COMMUNITY ★ TOGETHER

★ THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY ★

FIRST DISTRICT FALL RALLY

First District Fall Rally Agenda – October 3, 2026

✦ SERVICE • LEADERSHIP • FELLOWSHIP ✦

OPENING CEREMONIES

9 am	**DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD**	
10 am	**CALL TO ORDER**	Commander Ehrich
	COLORS	Acting SGT At Arms _____
	OPENING PRAYER	Acting Chaplain _____
	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	All
	POW / MIA CHAIR	Acting SGT At Arms _____
	AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE	All

A POW/MIA empty chair is placed at all official American Legion meetings as a physical symbol of the thousands of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for from all wars and conflicts involving the United States of America. This is a reminder for all of us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty, and a full accounting of those missing. Let us rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor.

AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE

SAL Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of All Wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of The American Legion" for the following purposes:

AL, ALA For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

All To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, to maintain law and order, to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism:

SAL To preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in All Wars;

AL, ALA To preserve the memories and incidents of our association in All Wars:

All To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation, to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses, to make right the master of might, to promote peace and goodwill on earth, to safeguard and transmit the posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy,

ALA To participate in the contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion;

All To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness

SAL To adopt in letter and spirit, all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

GREETINGS

★ Post Commander Roger Simon
★ Unit Auxiliary President Chandra Giles
★ SAL Commander Brady Voigt
★ District Commander Myron Ehrich
★ Auxiliary President Wanda Prescher

★ THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY ★

FIRST DISTRICT FALL RALLY

First District Fall Rally Agenda – October 3, 2026

✦ SERVICE • LEADERSHIP • FELLOWSHIP ✦

PROGRAM • GUESTS • ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS	SAL Commander Josh Erickson ALR Chapter Director Wes Halverson Dept Membership Director James Olson Dept Membership Director Wendy Grittner
ROLL CALL – Posts, Units, Squadrons	District Adjutant Deb Williamson
AUXILIARY GIFT SHOP	Auxiliary President Wanda Prescher
SPEAKER – "MN American Legion Family Hospital Assn"	Gary Weaver, Chairman
SPEAKER – "Veteran's Rights"	Jeff Dahlen, Freeborn County Veteran Service Officer
ANNOUNCEMENTS	District Commander Myron Ehrich

ANNOUNCEMENTS

★ Bronze Brigade Award (Department Convention) – Post 164 Stewartville, Ron Moore

★ National Convention Awards
- MN CPR 100% reporting
- Digital Dept History – 2nd Place 1st District Historian Sandra Gessler

★ National Commander Tour – April 10 – 15, 2027. Winona will host dinner. Lunch site TBD.

★ Armed Forces Service Center – Don Peterson is continuing as the representative for the First District at the Minneapolis Airport Service Center and encourages all of us to stop in.

★ First District Storage Shed is in the process of getting set up and accept DISTRICT materials from posts that may find that have stuff tucked away. Contact Adjutant Deb if you can help move, stack, sort, and you believe you have items for the shed.

★ First District Improving Communication email has gone out. This is an attempt to clean up our newsletter and other contact lists. If you are not getting correspondence from the district – let either Adjutant Deb know or Auxiliary PR Chairperson Michelle know.

★ Dept Fall Conference is October 22 - 24th in St Cloud, still not too late to sign up online.

★ District Christmas Party is 12/13 at Preston Veteran's Home. More info to come.

11:30 A.M. PRAYER • Unit Auxiliary Chaplain Audrey Farnsworth

✿ ✿ ✿ LUNCH ✿ ✿ ✿

★ THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY ★

FIRST DISTRICT FALL RALLY

First District Fall Rally Agenda – October 3, 2026

✦ SERVICE • LEADERSHIP • FELLOWSHIP ✦

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

1 p.m.	**Open Forum**	
2:00 p.m.	**Breakout Sessions**	
	Legion:	"You Matter: Building Stronger Membership through Belonging" Dept Membership Director James Olson
	Auxiliary:	Auxiliary Membership Application (ALAMIS) Dept Membership Director Wendy Grittner
	A.L.R.:	Chapter Development
3:15 p.m.	**Return from Breakout Sessions**	
	COLORS	Acting SGT At Arms _____
	CLOSING PRAYER	Acting Chaplain _____
	RALLY IS CLOSED	District Commander Myron Ehrich

CLOSING CEREMONIES

★ **Thank you for your service to Veterans, Families & Communities** ★

First District • Department of Minnesota

1st District Auxiliary Contacts



President
Wanda Prescher
507-254-0304
w.prescher1951@gmail.com

1st Vice President
Sandy Fredrickson
507-383-3776
dsfredrick@gmail.com

2nd Vice President
Leah Milburn
507-272-2133
leahmilburn81@gmail.com

1st Exec Committee Member
Nancy Lewison
507-440-2090
lewisonnancy@gmail.com

2nd Exec Committee Member
Chandra Gillis
507-440-0754
chandragilles1@gmail.com

Secretary
Lesley Heimer
612-756-1649
Lesleyheimer@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Tonia Betterman
507-456-2315
bettm88@outlook.com

Chaplain
Audrey Farnsworth
507-319-0257
audreyivah41@gmail.com

Parliamentarian
Louise Kleiboer
507-251-9211
louisekleiboer@gmail.com

Past President
Michelle Weaver
507-850-2407
weaver.michelle595@gmail.com



Thank You for the Invitations! I want to thank La Crescent, Adams, Glenville, Grand Meadow, Stewartville and Wabasha for invitations to their units! I would love to visit your unit meeting or events.

1st District Team Survivor Membership – 1st Place! Congratulations! We are in 1st Place as of 9/23! Way to go Auxiliary! Membership Chair Michelle has a contest going on for the District, I hope everyone will work towards achieving our department goals! Look for more info on this and the new updated membership eligibility that passed by both the Auxiliary and Legion from National Convention in the newsletter.

Department Fall Conference is coming up October 22nd–24th in St Cloud. I hope to see you there!

American Legion Family Service Project
In the September Unit mailing is a Wish List for the American Legion Family Service Project. We will be collecting supplies for all Veterans homes and hospitals Creative Arts Program. I will be happy to take supplies for units that want to participate that are not attending or you can send me a check with your wishes from the list and I would be happy to pickup for you. This is a small part of President Linda's Project for this year.

Veterans Day is not far off, and I know many of you are planning school visits and dinners. I encourage units and post who sent Girls and Boy Stater's to ask them to talk at your veteran's dinner. Take cookies or goody bags to veterans in your nursing home, senior centers as we do at the Preston Veterans Home. You will make their day and be so appreciative.

District Christmas Party is our annual event and will be held on Sunday, December 13th at 11am at the Preston Veterans Home. If you have never been to the home, it is a great opportunity to have a tour and meet our 50 veterans. It will be a great day for them to have you there to see their beautiful home, they are so appreciative for all the American Legion Family does for them!

Flooding in New Richland
As we are all aware of the flooding in New Richland, if you know members let them know that they can apply to the Emergency Auxiliary Fund being an auxiliary member. They should see Georgia Dinneon at 507-456-1539 or geodinneen@gmail.com; they will have the information for them or contact me for the form.

Wabasha Unit 50 – A Special Thank You!
I want to thank the wonderful auxiliary members from Wabasha Unit 50 who raised $3000 from selling pins celebrating the 250th in their community. The money was raised for a bronze statue of a Female Veteran that was dedicated on September 10th in the Wabasha Veterans Memorial Park. I was honored to be a part of.

Thank You for All You Do!
Thank you to our auxiliary members for Your Service Not Self each and every day!

President Wanda

MINNESOTA VETERANS HOMES PRESTON

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

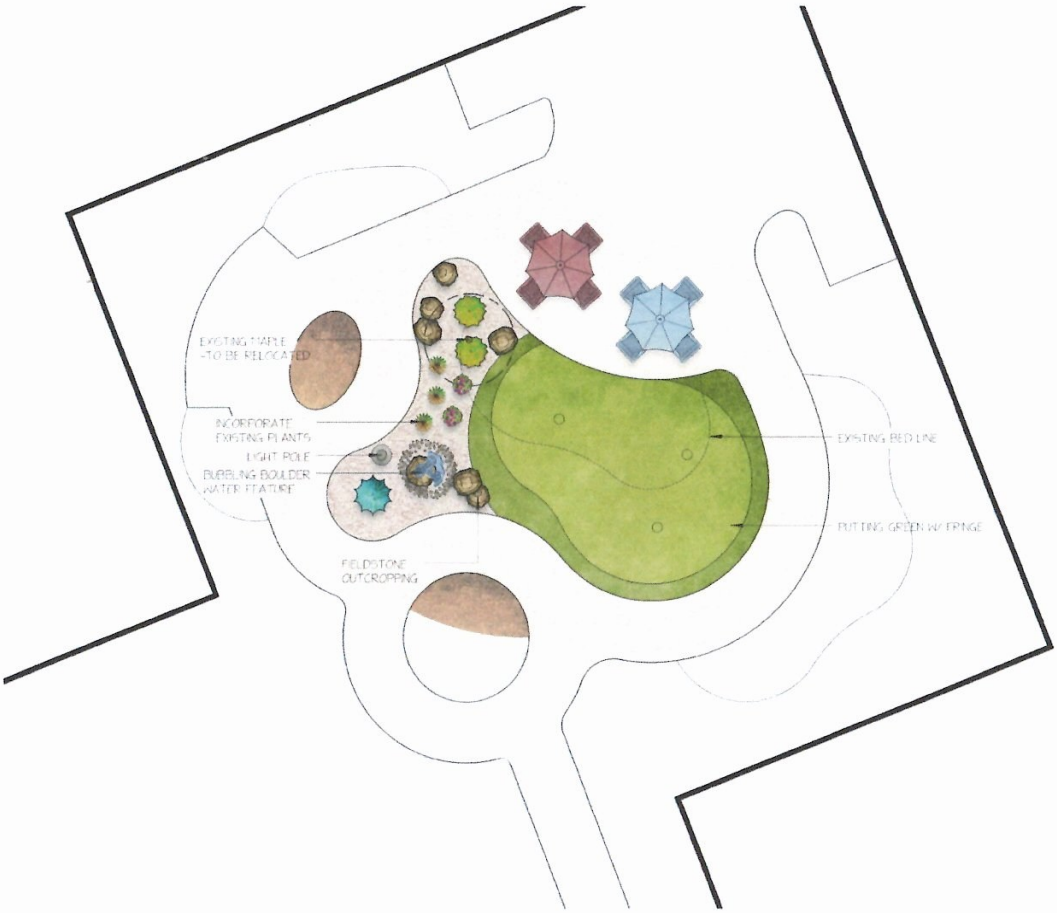
1ST DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

PUTTING GREEN

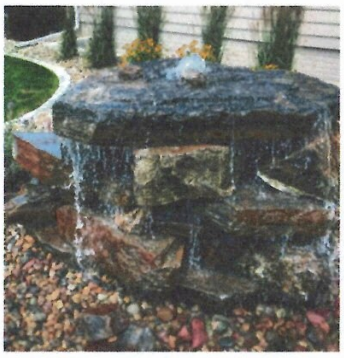
for our Veterans at the Veterans Home in Preston

We are raising funds to help construct a putting green with a water feature in the large courtyard at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Preston. This will be an amenity for both Veterans and their families.

To learn more about the project please contact Wanda Prescher 507-254-0304 w.prescher1951@gmail.com or Gabby Kinneberg 507-808-8927 gabby.kinneberg@state.mn.us









INSPIRATION







Auxiliary Membership Report

1ST DISTRICT AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP UPDATE — LEADING THE STATE!

Membership Bulletin 5 • As of September 23, 2026

The 2027 Auxiliary membership year is off to a strong start, and District 1 continues to set the pace for the entire Department of Minnesota. According to the latest Membership Bulletin, District 1 reports **486 Auxiliary members to date**, reflecting **a period gain of 148** and placing the district **55 members ahead of last year's numbers** at this same time.

With **47 active Auxiliary units** working toward a combined **annual goal of 3,114 Auxiliary members**, District 1 has already reached **15.6% of its objective.** This early momentum has propelled the district into **1st place statewide**, earning the highest progress percentage of **0.1561** among all ten districts.

This strong start demonstrates the dedication of our Auxiliary units, officers, and membership teams who continue to "Outsmart, Outmaneuver, Outlive" as part of the Survivor Minnesota membership theme. District 1's leadership in the rankings reflects not only consistent reporting but also the commitment of Auxiliary members who believe in the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

As we move forward into the fall reporting period, District 1 is well-positioned to maintain its lead and continue building toward the next milestone benchmarks. Thank you to every Auxiliary unit for your ongoing efforts—your work is making a measurable impact across the district and the state. If you have any questions, please reach out to me. I am happy to help throughout the membership year.

Michelle Weaver
1st District Auxiliary Membership Chairman
weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

486
Auxiliary Members to Date

148
Period Gain

55
Members Ahead of Last Year

3,114
Annual Goal (47 Active Units)

15.6%
of Objective

1st
Place Statewide

Education

From the Desk of

1st District Auxiliary Education Chairman

Lean Milburn



Education has long been one of the cornerstones of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through our support of students, educators, and lifelong learners, we help strengthen our communities while honoring the values of service, citizenship, and opportunity.

Education is more than what happens in a classroom. It shapes future leaders, empowers individuals to reach their full potential, and helps preserve the freedoms and responsibilities we cherish as Americans. Whether someone is earning a diploma, pursuing a trade, serving in the military, returning to school later in life, or learning a new skill, education creates pathways to success.

As Auxiliary members, we have a unique opportunity to encourage learning and recognize achievement in meaningful ways. Even small acts of support can have a lasting impact on students, educators, and families within our communities.



Ways Your Unit Can Promote Education

Consider incorporating one or more of the following activities throughout the year:

- Sponsor a scholarship for graduating seniors, veterans, or nontraditional students.
- Present American Legion Auxiliary educational awards at local schools.
- Partner with schools to support literacy initiatives or reading programs.
- Donate books to school libraries, community libraries, or literacy organizations.
- Recognize educators during Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Invite local educators to speak at unit meetings.
- Support students attending Minnesota Girls State.
- Provide school supplies to students and classrooms in need.
- Share educational opportunities through social media, newsletters, and community events.
- Encourage members to participate in lifelong learning opportunities and personal development programs.



Every scholarship awarded, every student encouraged, and every educator recognized helps strengthen the future of our communities. By investing in education, we invest in leadership, citizenship, and the continued success of the next generation.

Together, let us continue to champion learning opportunities and celebrate educational achievement throughout Minnesota's First District. The impact of education lasts far beyond the classroom, creating opportunities that can change lives for generations to come.



Education Program Reminder:

If your unit sponsors scholarships, recognizes educators or students, supports literacy projects, or conducts any educational activities, be sure to document and report your efforts. Your stories inspire others and demonstrate the tremendous impact the American Legion Auxiliary continues to make across our communities.



This month, let's celebrate learning, encourage achievement, and help open doors for future generations.

Lean Milburn

1st District Auxiliary Education Chairman

As the holiday season approaches, we are reminded of the importance of giving back to those who have given so much for us, our Veterans. At the Minnesota Veterans Home in Preston, we are committed to ensuring that every Veteran feels valued, supported, and celebrated, especially during this meaningful time of year.

We would like to invite individuals and organizations to participate in our **Holiday Giving Program.** There are several ways to make a difference:

- **Cash or Check Donations**
  - Monetary contributions are always appreciated. These funds help us provide items that enhance the quality of life for Veterans. If preferred, donations may also be directed specifically to our **Recreational Therapy Program**, which organizes engaging and fun activities that bring joy and connection to our residents. Donations may be mailed to:
    Minnesota Veterans Homes-Preston
    ATTN: Gabby Kinneberg
    1864 First Minnesota
    Preston, MN 55965
- **Holiday Giving Guide**
  - We will share a Giving Guide with a list of general items that are most needed at the Home this holiday season. These donations directly impact the daily lives of our Veterans in meaningful ways.
- **Adopt a Veteran**
  - For those who wish to give on a more personal level, we offer the opportunity to **Adopt a Veteran** for the holidays. This allows you to make the season brighter for an individual Veteran by providing gifts tailored to their personal needs and wishes.

If you would like more information about the **Holiday Giving Guide** or the **Adopt a Veteran Program**, please contact: **Gabby Kinneberg at 507-808-8927 or gabby.kinneberg@state.mn.us**

Your support ensures that our Veterans experience the care, gratitude, and holiday cheer they deserve. Together, we can make this season truly special for those who have served our nation with honor.

With gratitude,
Gabby Kinneberg
Public Relations and Volunteer Coordinator
Minnesota Veterans Home – Preston

Auxiliary News

Supporting Our Communities



As we are all aware of the flooding in New Richland, if you know members let them know that they can apply to the Emergency Auxiliary Fund being an auxiliary member. They should see Georgia Dinneen at 507-456-1539 or geodinneen@gmail.com.

New Richland DISASTER RESPONSE FUND

DONATE NOW!

Support community and business recovery needs affected by the flash flooding in New Richland.

Donations will be accepted by the New Richland Area Foundation through the Waseca Area Foundation website:
wasecaareafoundation.org

Community Support

Our thoughts and support are with the New Richland community as they continue recovery efforts. Every donation helps local families, businesses and neighbors rebuild after the recent flash flooding.

If units can help financially, it would be greatly appreciated by our New Richland Auxiliary for their community.

President Wanda

NEW RICHLAND AREA FOUNDATION

WASECA AREA FOUNDATION
GENEROSITY · COMMUNITY · GRATITUDE

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
Collaborating for Regional Vitality


American Legion
Auxiliary News
SERVICE ★ COMMUNITY ★ VETERANS ★ FAMILY
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
WABASHA AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 50
Thank You!
Unit 50 Wabasha Auxiliary
Thank you to Unit 50 Wabasha Auxiliary for their wonderful Female Veterans Statue they added to their Veterans Memorial Park!
This was achieved by selling 3,000 250th Celebration Pins.
HONORING ALL WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED

1st District Per Capita for 2026-2027

Unit #	Unit Name	Per Capita	Junior Dues	Total Members	Due
146	Adams	$208.00	$10.00	104	$218.00
56	Albert Lea	$354.00	$10.00	177	$364.00
404	Alden	$68.00	$10.00	34	$78.00
91	Austin	$132.00	$10.00	66	$142.00
52	Blooming Prairie	$160.00	$10.00	80	$170.00
191	Caledonia	$110.00	$10.00	55	$120.00
197	Chatfield	$38.00	$10.00	19	$48.00
422	Claremont	$38.00	$10.00	19	$48.00
384	Dodge Center	$88.00	$10.00	44	$98.00
573	Elgin	$10.00	$10.00	5	$20.00
551	Eyota	$154.00	$10.00	77	$164.00
552	Freeborn	$106.00	$10.00	53	$116.00
264	Glenville	$194.00	$10.00	97	$204.00
140	Grand Meadow	$106.00	$10.00	53	$116.00
81	Harmony	$76.00	$10.00	38	$86.00
330	Hayfield	$282.00	$10.00	141	$292.00
498	Hokah	$30.00	$10.00	15	$40.00
423	Houston	$180.00	$10.00	90	$190.00
333	Kasson	$208.00	$10.00	104	$218.00
595	La Crescent	$256.00	$10.00	128	$266.00
110	Lake City	$68.00	$10.00	34	$78.00
40	Lanesboro	$200.00	$10.00	100	$210.00
161	Le Roy	$82.00	$10.00	41	$92.00
90	Lewiston	$54.00	$10.00	27	$64.00
105	Lyle	$78.00	$10.00	39	$88.00
299	Mabel	$196.00	$10.00	98	$206.00
588	Mazeppa	$54.00	$10.00	27	$64.00
579	Millville	$78.00	$10.00	39	$88.00
75	New Richland	$56.00	$10.00	28	$66.00
544	Ostrander	$14.00	$10.00	7	$24.00
77	Owatonna	$172.00	$10.00	86	$182.00
526	Peterson	$74.00	$10.00	37	$84.00
179	Plainview	$170.00	$10.00	85	$180.00
92	Rochester	$208.00	$10.00	104	$218.00
94	Rushford	$86.00	$10.00	43	$96.00
249	Spring Grove	$118.00	$10.00	59	$128.00
68	Spring Valley	$68.00	$10.00	34	$78.00
164	Stewartville	$310.00	$10.00	155	$320.00
50	Wabasha	$220.00	$10.00	110	$230.00
587	Waldorf	$28.00	$10.00	14	$38.00
228	Waseca	$418.00	$10.00	209	$428.00
295	West Concord	$42.00	$10.00	21	$52.00
637	Whalan	$18.00	$10.00	9	$28.00
9	Winona	$210.00	$10.00	105	$220.00
369	Wykoff	$46.00	$10.00	23	$56.00
	Totals	**$5,866.00**	**$450.00**	**2933**	**6,316.00**

FIRST DISTRICT
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA
STANDING RULES

REVISED: May 16, 2026, at First District Convention in Lake City

The First District American Legion Auxiliary operates and functions by the Department of MN and National Constitution and Bylaws. Refer to the Unit Guide/First District Constitution and By-Laws.

A. GENERAL RULES

1. Every Unit should ask the District President to attend one meeting or function during the year. These invitations will be accepted in the order received and attended as stated in the invitation. District President may invite Units to group meetings (coffee talks/listening sessions, etc.) for open forum discussions of the ALA. Place and time set by the District President. This is in addition to any County, District, or Department meetings held by their Post/Unit. These invitations take priority over the President's own unit meetings/functions.
2. The elected officers for the First District American Legion Auxiliary are stated in the Constitution & Bylaws (Article IV, section 1 and section 2). If no nominations of candidates for officers, the incoming District President will ask for nominations from the floor or appoint a member to fill the seat. An officer may decline moving up the chairs. The District President shall appoint a Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Color Bearer, Chaplain, Historian, Parliamentarian, Musician and the following District Committees: Finance/Risk & Compliance Committee (3) and Nominating Committee (3). All other Chairmen are listed as stated in the Constitution and By-Laws (refer to Article IV). The District Executive Committee must approve the list of appointments at their First District Executive Committee Meeting. An elected district officer may succeed her/himself in office after serving one (1) full term and may hold that position for two (2) consecutive years.
    a. The duties of all the First District elected officers shall be as printed in the Department Unit guide (provided by Department). The Finance Committee shall be a 3-member rotating committee with the 3rd year member acting as chairman. The treasurer shall be invited to the committee meetings. The duties of the Finance Committee are to present a proposed budget to the District Executive committee for their August meeting, do a first audit of the treasurer's books before the District convention, and complete the final audit after Department convention. The Nominating Committee is a 3-member rotating committee, one of which should be a past District President, with the 3rd year member acting as chairman. They are responsible to find qualified candidates for office for the coming year should there be no endorsed candidates. Each year the District President shall appoint one member to each rotating committee. The Chairmen

are responsible for presenting their programs to the units through reports and the District Newsletter. In the event of a death or illness of a District President, see Article IV, Section 2b under District Constitution. If unable to do so, it is the responsibility of the First District Executive Committee to appoint a past District President to assume the responsibility as President.

b. The District Executive Committee shall consist of seven (7) members. Refer to the Constitution & Bylaws in the Department Unit Guide. The Treasurer and Parliamentarian attend without the privilege of vote. There shall be a minimum of two (2) District Executive Committee meetings each administrative year. A quorum for these meetings is stated in the Constitution & Bylaws of the District. The District President shall call the first Executive Committee meeting at least two (2) weeks after the Department Convention and before any official District business is conducted. The purpose of the meeting shall be to approve District Chairman appointments, approve the final audit of the Finance Committee and the budget for the upcoming year, proof the revised Standing Rules for accuracy, and other business deemed necessary for the successful operation of the District. A Pre-Convention District Executive Committee meeting shall be called by the District President to be held the day before the District Convention is convened for the purpose of receiving reports and considering recommendations of the standing convention committees, approving minutes of previous Executive Committee meetings, and reviewing the preliminary report of the Finance Committee. Additional Executive Committee meetings may be called by the District President at Fall Rally, Mid-Winter Conference or such other times that special business is required at no expense to the District. These officers are responsible for the successful operation of the District and should attend all District committee meetings and District functions.

c. A Unit may endorse any member of their Unit for District office and shall send copies of said endorsement to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and the District President for the District Newsletter. An endorsement for office may also be read at District Convention. Such endorsements shall not exceed three (3) minutes in length.

3. Nominations for District officers shall be held during the first business session (morning) of the District Convention. Election of District officers shall be in the afternoon session by secret ballot and/or where there is no opposition, voting shall be by acclamation at the final session. Ballot(s) will be furnished to the chairman of each delegation, District Executive Committee member, or Delegate at Large, with the total number of votes available clearly marked on the ballot.
4. The First District American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Riders will electronically publish eleven (11) monthly joint newsletters. The Auxiliary President will include the call to District Convention thirty (30) days prior to convention. All chairman reports and items of interest are to be sent to the District President by the 20th of the month to be included in the next newsletter. These newsletters will be sent to Unit Presidents, Secretaries and Membership Chairmen, District Sister Presidents, and the Department Office. Also,

to County Council Presidents, District Officers, and Chairmen, Honorary District Junior President, and Past District Presidents. Electronic mailings will be used whenever e-mail addresses are provided.

5. There shall be a Leadership School/School of Instruction for all officers and members to be held in each administrative year. This school shall be held in September or October of each administrative year.
6. The District Sergeant-at-Arms shall be responsible for the storing and care of the District Senior and Junior Colors and the Page and Color Bearer ribbons.
7. The District Memory Book shall become the property of the District President at the conclusion of her year.
8. The resolutions of any Unit should be sent to the District President and the Resolutions Chairman prior to the District Convention for consideration of the District Executive Committee at its Pre-Convention meeting.
9. Any resolution concerning money will have a first reading in the morning with a second reading and a vote in the afternoon. All other resolutions will be read and voted on in the afternoon. The courtesy resolution will be read and acted on at the close of the convention. A copy of all resolutions passed at the District Convention shall be recorded in the minutes in the exact form as passed.
10. The District Treasurer's books shall receive a preliminary audit by the Finance Committee PRIOR to the District Convention and a copy of the Treasurer's report shall be attached to the District Convention minutes for permanent record.
11. The District Treasurer's books shall receive a FINAL audit by the Finance Committee and the treasurer after the Department Convention and BEFORE the August Executive meeting (per rule 2a) and a copy attached to the Department Caucus minutes for permanent record. The books and funds should be turned over to the new Treasurer no later than August 15th.
    a. The Secretary's books shall be turned over to the incoming Secretary by the end of Department Convention with the exception of the Department Caucus minutes. Said minutes to be given to the District President two (2) weeks prior to the first Executive Committee meeting, who will have copies available for all Executive Committee members.
    b. With the District Auxiliary file cabinet being permanently stored at the Rochester American Legion Office, the District President shall deliver the rolling briefcase and contents, including a copy of all minutes recorded during her administrative year to the District President-elect by the end of the Department Convention. The outgoing District President shall place in the District Auxiliary file cabinet a copy of all minutes, a copy of the Book of Annual Reports, a copy of the Standing Rules and the changes made at convention, and a copy of the District History by October 1 following her administrative year. There shall be no scrapbooks or memorabilia included in the file cabinet.
12. Standing Rules, as revised and passed at District Convention, shall be proofread for accuracy by the District Executive Committee at their August meeting prior to printing. They should be preprinted at that time as NO changes can be made except by District Convention.

a. The District Secretary shall type the minutes of the District Convention and forward a copy to the 1st and 2nd Executive Committee Members to be read for accuracy no later than two (2) weeks after District Convention. Their report will then become a matter of record and approval during the business sessions at the next District Convention.

13. A candidate for Department or National office will be welcome to visit our District as she wishes. However, said candidate will address the District members on one occasion only, i.e. District membership rallies, Fall Rally, Mid-Winter Conference, or District Convention.
14. All District meetings shall be called to order at the stated time and place by the District President. There will be no smoking or alcoholic beverages consumed during these meetings. Members should extend courtesy to anyone speaking or giving their report by remaining seated until they are finished speaking.
15. Apparel for pages and flag bearers shall be white blouses with dark skirts or slacks and dark, comfortable shoes (no flip flops). No jewelry will be worn except wedding rings, watch, and small earrings.

B. RULES GOVERNING FINANCE

1. The District dues shall be $2.00 per member based on last year's membership. 80% ($1.60) of this amount shall go to the general fund. The 80% will then be allocated as follows: 95% ($1.52) going to the annual budget and 5% ($.08) going to the unallocated fund. The remaining 20% ($.40) shall go to the delegates' fund. No money shall be transferred from the delegates' fund to the general fund. Proposed yearly budget will be sent with the Standing Rules in October.
   a. Registration fees shall be charged at Fall Rally, Mid-Winter Conference and District Convention only. Said fees are established by the First District American Legion Executive Committee. All registration fees for Auxiliary sponsored events (i.e. Fall Rally or Mid-winter) shall go to the hostess Unit to defray expenses (AM coffee, juice, rolls, luncheon, printing programs, etc.).
   b. A fee not to exceed $8.00 shall be charged at the Leadership School/School of Instruction. Said fee to go to the Leadership Chairman to defray costs of material provided to attendees. There will be no registration fee at any other function except District Convention, which shall be in compliance with the American Legion District Convention rules.
   c. All Units shall pay $10.00 to the District Treasurer for the District Junior dues.
   d. Any interest accumulated on the District's general fund monies shall be put in the delegates' fund. Any interest accumulated on the Certificates of Deposit shall be compounded.
2. The District President shall receive an amount as set by the District Finance Committee and approved by the District Executive Committee for travel, postage and telephone expenses while covering the District on Auxiliary business. Said amount to be paid in ten (10) equal monthly payments September through June.

3. The District Secretary, District Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Color Bearer shall attend Fall Conference and Department Convention with expenses reimbursed as allowed in the District budget.
4. As a gratuity, a stipend of $100.00 shall be paid to the District Chaplain and Parliamentarian.
5. The District President-elect shall be sent as a delegate to the National Convention at District expense. She/he shall receive the same per-dem and travel for the necessary days as set by the Department Finance Committee action. Any First District member in good standing shall be eligible to be a delegate to the National Convention.
6. Mileage will be paid at the same rate as Department per mile (round trip); to District Executive Committee members, District Parliamentarian, District Treasurer, and District Chaplain attending the District Executive Committee meetings. Said allowance will be paid only to those with actual automobile expenses incurred.
7. Luncheon for speakers will be provided by the District American Legion Auxiliary. Not to exceed amount set by the District American Legion.
8. Two (2) District Chairmen, working in a rotation, will be responsible for speakers at Fall Rally. Chairmen will be informed and work with the District President in setting this up. The District President will announce the programs at the first District Executive meeting in August. The speakers will receive a monetary stipend as provided in the District budget.
9. A sum not to exceed $50.00 shall be allowed in the yearly budget for the purchase of the Past District Presidents Pin. Past Presidents pin to be ordered by the Treasurer.
10. The sum of $100.00 shall be budgeted for a gift for the Department President to be presented when she visits the First District.
11. There shall be three (3) authorized signers (President, 1st Vice President, and Treasurer) on the card at the bank. All checks written on District accounts shall require two (2) signatures. One (1) of these signatures may be a stamped signature IF a list of the checks issued has been approved by electronic means prior to distribution of the checks. At no time shall a check be issued to and signed or cosigned by the same person.
12. The filing of the annual 990N shall be the responsibility of the District Treasurer. A copy of the 990N (showing accepted by the IRS) must be presented to the finance committee at the final audit meeting.
13. The District Treasurer must be bonded for $50,000. Cost to be paid out of unallocated funds. It is the District President's and Treasurer's responsibility to make sure this is current.
14. Upon the death of a Past First District President, a $25.00 memorial shall be sent to the family, said memorial to be taken from unallocated funds.
15. The Book of Annual Reports will be compiled by the District President. Expenses/receipts of up to $250.00 shall be paid to District President out of unallocated funds.
16. Supplies for the First District shall be purchased when needed as follows: Department Unit Guide for all new incoming officers and chairmen of first District, stationery, envelopes and stamps without any names of officers or chairmen,

secretary's or treasurer's books, and preprinted checks should all come out of unallocated funds.

17. Certificates of Recognition awarded to Units for their accomplishments for the year are to be paid for from unallocated funds.
18. No withdrawals may be made from unallocated funds without Convention action with the exception of those referred to in Finance Rules # 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17.
19. The District President shall select a project of her choice with Department approval and may solicit funds from the Units. Such projects shall be completed and presented during her administrative year only.
20. Remaining money in current budget shall be placed in the Special Fund.
21. The Special Fund may be used to balance the current year's budget or for shortfalls for expenses not covered by unallocated funds. Any funds dispersed must have receipt and/or be approved by the District Executive Committee.

C. RULES GOVERNING STANDING RULES

1. The District President shall appoint three (3) members to review and update the District Standing Rules prior to each District Convention. The third person shall be the Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian does not act as Chairman.
2. Recommendations of the Standing Rules Committee shall be presented to the delegates in the morning session, then voted on in the afternoon on the day of the convention. The Standing Rules may ONLY be amended or added to at the District Convention by a majority of delegates present and voting.
3. In October of each Auxiliary year, the District Senior and Junior Standing Rules shall be published in the District Newsletter and sent electronically.
4. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority in all matters not covered by the Standing Rules.

D. RULES GOVERNING DISTRICT CONVENTION

1. See Article V-VIII District Convention, District Constitution & Bylaws.
2. The Convention city shall pay the following: expenses for the Memorial Service if needed and housing, registration, and luncheon tickets for the District President and District Secretary. Registration for the District Executive Committee, District Parliamentarian, District Sergeant-at-Arms, District Color Bearer, District Chaplain, District Treasurer, and District Musician will be paid by the First District American Legion Auxiliary. If prepaid by this member, reimbursement will be made by voucher from the District Treasurer. Payment to be taken from the unallocated fund. Registration and luncheon tickets for the distinguished guests shall be designated by the American Legion.
3. Every Unit should bring their flags to the District Convention with the hostess Unit's flags leading the processional. All Unit Presidents will follow in the processional, in alphabetical order by city, behind their flags, if present, followed by the District Officers. The District Colors shall precede the District President.

4. The Joyce Erickson District Gavel is to be used by the current District President during her administrative year and convention.

E. RULES GOVERNING TROPHIES AND AWARDS

1. The awards list will be sent out annually in the month of March with the rules governing the awards.
2. An award winners' list shall be published in the first District Newsletter after District Convention by the outgoing President. Any Unit awarded Certificates at District Convention and not in attendance is responsible to make arrangements to pick up said Certificate by Fall Rally. If no arrangements are made with the outgoing President, said Certificate will not be distributed.
3. All awards will be Certificate of Recognition only. Certificates to be purchased by the District President with monies to come from unallocated fund. Certificates to be signed by District Chairman and District President.
4. To be eligible for awards, annual reports and all other entries for competition must be received by the District Chairman by April 15, then District Chairman send to the Department Chairman, where specifically stated for Department and National Awards. Entries must use cover page for specific awards.

a. A Certificate of Recognition may be awarded annually to a Unit in each of the Auxiliary programs. This can be awarded for a particularly good project or for the overall program but not otherwise eligible for an award.

5. There shall be NO CHANGES in the wording or requirements of an award if the award has a name on it WITHOUT the express permission of the person who created the award or the permission of her/his family or former Unit if she/he is no longer a part of the Auxiliary. Program awards with no name must follow National and Department rules.
6. Unless otherwise stated, all awards will be awarded based on the annual reports from April 1 to March 31 of each Auxiliary year.

AWARDS:

AMERICANISM

1. *The Betty Gartner Memorial Award* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit reporting the best all-around Americanism program each year.

2. *The Miner/Isenberg First District Americanism Award* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit submitting the most all-around Americanism program. This must be a narrative report of 250 words or less on one project only. This must be attached to the annual report. Pictures or clippings may be attached.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

1. *The District Child Welfare Gavel Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit having a membership of from 15 to 75 members judged to have the most outstanding Children and Youth report.

2. *The Myrna Gunderson Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit having a membership of from 76 to 200 members, judged to have the most outstanding Children and Youth report.

3. *The Cindy Nelson Certificate* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit of the First District judged to have the most outstanding, well-rounded Children and Youth report.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

1. *The Evelyn Lyke Community Service Trophy* will be awarded to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Community Service project.

2. *The Berenice Smith Community Service Award* is to be awarded annually at the District Convention based on the size of the unit, to the Unit judged to have the most outstanding piece of work in Community Service. **A narrative rep**ort of 500 words or less on this one project is to be attached to the Unit annual report. Pictures and clippings may be included.

EDUCATION:

1. *The Mildred Holtz Gavel Bell Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Education and Scholarship report.

HISTORY:

1. *The Irene Martin History Trophy* will be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit that is judged to have the best all-around typed History report.

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES:

1. The Bev Jiardina Trophy is to be awarded at each annual First District Convention to the Unit which best encourages and supports their junior group. A narrative report describing how the Unit encourages and supports their junior group is to be attached to the Unit annual report. Pictures and clippings may be included.

LEADERSHIP:

1. *The Cheryl Nymann Leadership Award* will be awarded to the Unit who has the best all-around Leadership Annual Report.

LEGISLATION:

1. *The Bette Berg and Louella Gusau (B & L) Trophy* will be awarded annually at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Legislative program.

MEMBERSHIP:

1. *The Marie Goede Membership Trophy* is awarded at the District Convention to the Unit attaining the greatest increase in number of members by the previous year; based on the Department Membership Bulletin prior to the district convention.

2. *The Lynette Hillman Wolff Membership Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit attaining the greatest percentage of increase in Junior Membership of the previous year, as of Wednesday the week of District Convention.\

3. *The Carol Kruger Membership Trophy* is to be awarded to the first Unit to reach Goal.

MEMORIAL:

1. The Audrey Erwin Memorial Trophy is to be awarded at District Convention to the Unit judged to have the single, most outstanding memorial project for the year. Pictures and clippings may be included, but are not required.

MUSIC:

1. *The Lois Deyo Music Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit who submits the best **narrative report** (not more than 300 words) stating how they used and promoted music within the Unit and community. Report is to be sent to the current First District Music Chairman.

NATIONAL SECURITY:

1. *The National Security Trophy* will be awarded to the Unit who submits the best all-around **narrative report** not to exceed 500 words. Pictures and clippings may be included.

PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY:

1. *The Pat Johannsen Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit who submits the best all-around **narrative report** written by the Chairman of the Past Presidents Parley in 300 words or less. Report to be sent to the current First District Past Presidents Parley Chairman.

POPPY:

1. *The Lillian Koch Trophy* is to be awarded annually at the District Convention to the Unit with the greatest percentage of increase over their previous year of poppy proceeds. **To be eligible for this trophy, a unit MUST include the dollar amount of poppies from each of the last two years on the Unit annual report.**

2. *The Marge Schreiber Traveling District Poppy Queen Trophy* is to be presented at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have submitted the most outstanding **narrative entry** for First District Poppy Queen. Entry to be sent to the current First District Poppy Chairman by April 15th .

3. *District awards for Poppy Posters* shall be $10.00 for first prize, $5.00 for second prize, and $3.00 for third prize in each class. The classes for the Poppy Poster contest are as follows:

Class 1 – Grades 2 and 3 Class II – Grades 4 and 5
Class III – Grades 6 and 7 Class IV – Grades 8 and 9
Class V – Grades 10 and 11 Class VI – Grade 12
Class VII – Students with special needs*

*Special needs are defined as those students in special education classes or on a waiting list to enter such a class; a student with an identified disability but not in a special education class for reasons other than wait listing.

4. *The Carol Kruger Traveling Poppy Queen Crown* to be used annually to crown the District Poppy Queen at the District Convention. Crown must be returned before the District Convention each year.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

1. *The Anna Schmitz Public Relations Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit judged to have the best all-around Public Relations report.

2. *The Michelle Weaver Public Relations Certificate of Merit* recognizes an American Legion Auxiliary Unit that has demonstrated outstanding communication efforts in promoting the organization's mission, programs, and values. Honoring storytelling, outreach, and connection beyond traditional media, this award celebrates Units that elevate the ALA's visibility through strategic, creative, and community-driven public relations. A 300-word narrative report is required, showcasing impactful activities and alignment with ALA values. The award encourages best practices, innovation, and collaboration, reinforcing public relations as a vital leadership tool.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION:

1. *The District Rehabilitation Gavel Trophy* is to be awarded at the District Convention to the Unit having membership of 15 to 75 members, judged to have the most outstanding Rehabilitation report.

1st District SAL Contacts

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander
Josh Erickson
507-313-5861
josheric@hbci.com

Adjutant
Dave Bilderback
507-250-1057
dbilderbackb@aol.com

SAL Advisor
Brian Medinnus
507-219-7188
ftdavis8589@gmail.com

Chaplain
Christopher Taulbee
ctaulbee76@gmail.com
608-799-6965

East Side Vice Commander
Empty

West Side Vice Commander
Empty

Membership
Greg Lemmer
507-312-2222
gslemmer@hbci.com

Finance Officer
Gary Weaver
507-450-9580
gweaver@acegroup.cc

Parlimenterian
Gary Weaver
507-450-9580
gweaver@acegroup.cc

Sgt at Arms
Greg Lemmer
507-312-2222
gslemmer@hbci.com

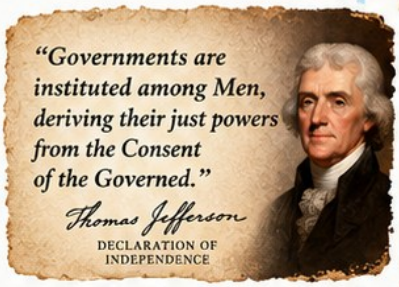
From the Desk of THE COMMANDER

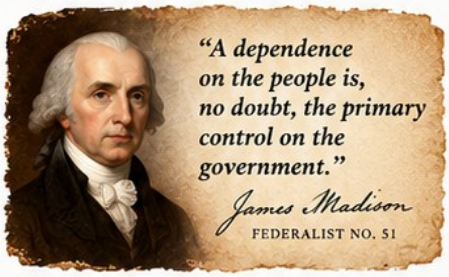
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
★ 1st DISTRICT ★

Greetings Legion Family,

The Founding Fathers were very clear that a republic could function only when citizens accepted responsibility for governing themselves.

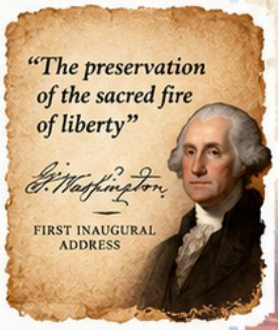
In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson wrote that "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the Consent of the Governed." Voting is one of the clearest ways citizens give or withhold that consent. When citizens stop voting, they allow public officials to exercise power without the broad participation and judgment on which legitimate self-government depends.





James Madison expressed a similar principle in Federalist No. 51: "A dependence on the people is, no doubt, the primary control on the government." The people, in Madison's view, were the government's first and most important safeguard. If citizens become apathetic and fail to monitor their representatives or participate in elections, that "primary control" is weakened.

George Washington echoed these sentiments in his First Inaugural Address, describing the American experiment as one in which "the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty" was entrusted to the American people. That responsibility could not be permanently delegated to elected officials. It required citizens to remain attentive to government, informed about public affairs, and willing to exercise their political rights. When citizens cease voting or show indifference toward public decisions, they risk allowing the "sacred fire" of liberty to weaken through neglect.



These principles do not only apply to our great Nation but apply equally to any organization which adopts a similar form of government. This is especially true for the American Legion where the national organization and all state, territorial and intermediate organizations are governed and administered by the members of the posts and squadrons within them. These organizations cannot effectively carry out their purposes if the posts and squadrons do not accept responsibility for and actively engage in the governing and administrative processes.



You are probably aware that a portion of your annual dues goes to the district, but do you know what the district organization actually does? Minnesota is home to more than 50,000 Legion members from over 500 posts, more than 12,000 SAL members from over 250 squadrons, and more than 12,000 Auxiliary members from over 380 units. To make things more manageable the Department of Minnesota has geographically divided the state into ten districts, each with its own governing and administrative body.

The governing body for the district is the District Convention. In convention, each squadron is represented by delegates it elects from its own membership. The District Convention is responsible for maintaining the constitution and bylaws of the district and for nominating and electing district officers from the district membership. The elected officers collectively form the District Executive Committee which functions as the administrative body of the district.

The District Executive Committee is responsible for maintaining the "health" of the district by providing guidance and leadership to the squadrons, conveying information between the squadrons and the Detachment, and representing the district on the Detachment Executive Committee.

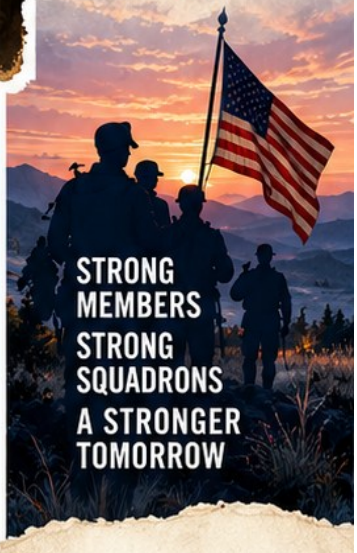
The district plays a key role in keeping the squadrons connected to rest of the organization, but it can only function when the squadrons are actively engaged. The roles might be slightly different on the Legion and Auxiliary sides, but the vulnerability is the same. If there are no new nominees to elect and no new delegates to vote, the organization eventually fails to function.



Our Voice
REPRESENTS MEMBERS

Our Vote
KEEPS US STRONG

Our Involvement
BUILDS OUR FUTURE



Josh Erickson

JOSH ERICKSON
FIRST DISTRICT
SAL COMMANDER

SAL 1st District Membership

Greg Lemmer

1st District Membership Director

HONOR
SUPPORT
SERVE

To all 36 squadrons of the 1st District:

It is time to get those 2027 memberships turned in. Every membership matters, and a strong early start shows the commitment and pride our squadrons have in supporting the Sons of The American Legion and our veterans.

The numbers are in and as of 9/27/26 we can see the progress we have made. We are especially proud of the three squadrons that have already reached 100% membership. Congratulations on an outstanding accomplishment and on setting the pace for the rest of the district.

At this time, the 1st District is in fourth place among the 11 districts, with membership standing at **25.1%.** That is a solid beginning, but we know our district can do even better.

In support of our commander's request, we would like to see every squadron off the goose egg by the District Fall Rally on October 3. Currently, 12 squadrons have not yet reported any 2027 memberships. Please make membership a priority now so that every squadron can be represented at the rally.

Congratulations also go to the seven squadrons that have signed up new members. New members bring fresh energy, new ideas, and continued strength to our organization.

Let's keep the momentum moving forward. Please submit your 2027 memberships as soon as possible, recruit new members, renew current members, and help move the 1st District higher in the statewide standings.

Thank you to every squadron, membership chairman, and member for your continued work and dedication. In closing, I wish you all the best. God Bless our Troops past and present and God Bless America.

Respectfully Yours,

Greg Lemmer

SAL 1st District Membership Director

3 SQUADRONS AT 100%

7 SQUADRONS WITH NEW MEMBERS

12 SQUADRONS YET TO REPORT

1st DISTRICT **25.1%** 4TH PLACE OF 11 DISTRICTS

Membership • Service • Veterans • Community

Districts	2026 Results	2027 Goal	Grand Total	Percentage	Placing
1st District	1731	1781	447	25.10%	4
2nd District	1384	1434	107	7.46%	9
3rd District	2197	2247	648	28.84%	3
4th District	422	472	64	13.56%	8
5th District	321	371	90	24.26%	5
6th District	1738	1808	345	19.08%	7
7th District	1137	1187	47	3.96%	10
8th District	535	585	199	34.02%	1
9th District	974	1024	346	33.79%	2
10th District	1597	1647	346	21.01%	6
Totals	12036	12556	2639	21.02%	

Remember on line renewal is available now for 2027 membership.

For your 2027 SAL membership target a date no later than Dec 1, 2026.



Sqdrn.	Location	2026 Results	2027 Goal	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Grand Total	% of Goal	Date Goal Reached
9	Winona	166	170	1	0	111	0	112	65.88%	
40	Lanesboro	63	63	0	0	1	0	1	1.59%	
50	Wabasha	20	21	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
52	Blooming P	33	33	0	0	1	0	1	3.03%	
56	Albert Lea	90	92	0	0	52	0	52	56.52%	
77	Owatonna	107	110	1	0	12	0	13	11.82%	
90	Lewiston	49	50	7	0	3	0	10	20.00%	
91	Austin	51	53	0	0	3	0	3	5.66%	
92	Rochester	81	83	1	0	28	0	29	34.94%	
94	Rushford	37	39	0	0	1	0	1	2.56%	
105	Lyle	33	34	0	0	1	0	1	2.94%	
119	Byron	26	27	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
146	Adams	100	100	0	0	21	0	21	21.00%	
161	Leroy	35	35	0	0	1	0	1	2.86%	
164	Stewartville	117	119	4	0	43	0	47	39.50%	
166	Preston	61	63	0	0	4	0	4	6.35%	
179	Plainview	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
190	St Charles	2	2	0	0	2	0	2	100.00%	8/30/2026
191	Caledonia	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
228	Waseca	145	147	6	0	32	0	38	25.85%	
264	Glenville	78	80	0	0	2	0	2	2.50%	
266	Hartland	10	10	0	0	10	0	10	100.00%	9/13/2026
281	Janesville	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
299	Mabel	17	17	0	0	9	0	9	52.94%	
317	Emmons	47	49	0	0	21	0	21	42.86%	
330	Hayfield	59	61	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
333	Kasson	34	35	0	0	3	0	3	8.57%	
384	Dodge Cen	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
404	Alden	54	55	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
423	Houston	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
446	Rochester	29	31	2	0	30	0	32	103.23%	9/13/2026
546	Kellogg	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
551	Eyota	41	42	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
552	Freeborn	5	15	0	0	3	0	3	20.00%	
579	Millville	23	23	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
595	La Crescen	67	69	0	0	31	0	31	44.93%	
1st District Totals		**1731**	**1781**	**22**	**0**	**425**	**0**	**447**	**25.10%**	

# of Squadr 36

Off Goose Egg

The cells in the NEW column will turn Blue when the squadron has 5 or more new members

Below are the color codes for the % of Goal Column

0.00% Membership (Goose Egg)
0.01% - 24.99%
25.00% - 49.99%
50.00% - 74.99%
75.00% - 99.99%
100.00%

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF MINNESOTA

APPLICATION FOR PAID UP FOR LIFE (PUFL) MEMBERSHIP

1 This plan shall become available commencing with the 2007 membership year, beginning July 1, 2006. The Detachment of Minnesota SAL PUFL Committee shall be authorized to change the Minnesota SAL PUFL Membership plan subject to the approval of the Detachment Executive Committee and The American Legion Department of Minnesota Executive Committee.

2 The entire amount of the Minnesota SAL PUFL Membership must accompany this application unless other arrangements are approved by the Detachment PUFL Committee for the payment plan. The payment plan is as follows: 25% paid with application, and the balance to be paid in 3 payments of 25 % every 3 months. No credit card payments will be accepted. **NOTE: Current membership dues must be paid in full. If paying after October 01, pay the upcoming membership year to allow for processing.**

3 There will be no refunds to any member that participates in the Minnesota SAL PUFL Membership Plan.

4 Increases in District, Detachment or National dues will be absorbed by the SAL PUFL Fund

PAYMENT SCHEDULE																		
AGE	0 - 4	5.-9	10.-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
COST	$640	$615	$595	$575	$550	$525	$500	$470	$435	$400	$360	$320	$275	$240	$200	$165	$135	$115

PLEASE COMPLETE THE APPLICATION BELOW. PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION. *PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY OR TYPE.*

Thank you for your continued dedication and service to the Sons of The American Legion and everything we stand for. Together, we can lead the way for another year of growth, action, and pride in our mission.

For God and Country.
God Bless our troops, past and present and God Bless the USA.

Greg Lemmer
Membership Director S.A.L. District One
gslemmer@hbci.com Cell 507-312-2222

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

District Advisor

NEWS & REMINDERS

HONOR ★ SERVICE ★ LEADERSHIP ★ CAMARADERIE

PROUD PAST STRONG FUTURE

Good Afternoon 1st District Members!

- A voice from the immediate Past wanting to remind everyone that It's not too early to consider putting your name in consideration for the many **District Officer Positions** for next year.
- If you are so motivated, please feel free to step up and fill one of the Current years **Officer Positions** or one of the many open **Committee Chairmanships** that The District currently has available.
- People complain that we never seem to bring in **New Blood** into the District Officer ranks of The Legion, Auxiliary and the SAL.
- It is hard to bring in new blood to the District when no one seems to be interested in stepping up. **Nothing will change until new People step forward.**
- As usual- this opinion is my own. If you wish to comment to me directly, my email is listed on the SAL Page.
- Thank you for taking time to read this..

STEP UP

GET INVOLVED

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

LEAD SUPPORT SERVE



Brian

Brian Medinnus
Past 1st District Commander 2025-2026
1st District SAL Liaison
Mower County Commander

THE NEXT GENERATION CONTINUES THE MISSION

Chaplain's Corner

By Christopher Taulbee,
1st District SAL Chaplain

As ***October*** arrives, our days grow cooler, our evenings settle earlier, and the world around us begins its quiet shift toward rest. Autumn has a way of reminding us that change is both natural and necessary. The leaves don't cling to their branches out of fear—they let go so that new growth can come in its season. There's a lesson in that for all of us.

Within the Sons of the American Legion, we carry a mission rooted in ***service***, ***remembrance***, ***and gratitude***. These values stay steady even as the world around us changes. But October invites us to pause and consider how we're living them out. Are we offering encouragement where it's needed? Are we showing up for our veterans, our Legion Family, and our communities with intention? Are we allowing ourselves to grow in spirit, compassion, and purpose?

This month, I encourage each of us to embrace the spirit of ***renewal***. Reach out to a veteran who may be feeling the weight of the season. Offer a moment of kindness to someone who needs it. Volunteer your time, your presence, or simply your listening ear. Small acts of service often carry the greatest impact.

As we gather for meetings, events, and fall activities, may we do so with hearts open to ***gratitude***. Let us honor those who served, support those who continue to serve, and strengthen the bonds that make our Legion Family resilient and united.

May God bless our veterans, our communities, and each of you as we move through this season with faith, purpose, and a renewed commitment to serving others.



1st District ALR Contacts

Are you interested in joining the 1st District American Legion Riders?
Want to know who to reach out to about a Chapter near you?
Below are contacts for the Chapters in the 1st District.
Also listed are the District ALR officers and their contact info.

Director
Wes Halverson
507-383-7983

Vice Director
Roe Naylor
507-438-5804
roe.land@yahoo.com

Secretary
Sunshine Maloney
507-459-5962
sunshin1alr@gmail.com

Treasurer
Mark Maloney
507-703-0026
markmaloney1962@gmail.com

Historian
Tricia Peterson
507-500-0449
Tlynn1318@gmail.com

Chaplain
Jill Reed
507-450-5525
jill22kimber@gmail.com

Sgt at Arms
James Rinehart
612-991-4699
kgwencl@msn.com

Parliamentarian
Chuck Stone
507-213-7517
castoney@hotmail.com

ADAMS – CHAPTER #146
Dennis & Nancy Lewison – lewisonnancy@gmail.com

ALBERT LEA – CHAPTER #56
Terry Lewis - Director - 507-573-2926

AUSTIN – CHAPTER #91
Roe Naylor - Director - 507-438-5804

EYOTA – CHAPTER #551
Mark Maloney - Director - 507-703-0026

GLENVILLE – CHAPTER #264
Bruce Camerer - Director - 507-850-2025

OWATONNA – CHAPTER #77
Chuck Stone – 507-213-7517

RUSHFORD – CHAPTER #94
Ray Steichen - Director - 563-379-8421

WASECA – CHAPTER #228
Ryan Berg - Director - 507-461-5245

WINONA – CHAPTER #9
Brian Degnan - Director - 507-458-3043

You can also get information about the District ALR on our Facebook page.
1st District ALR of MN

AMERICAN LEGION Riders

1st District Newsletter

RIDE ★ SERVE ★ HONOR



ALL GAVE SOME
★ SOME GAVE ALL

Greetings Riders!

★ Fall is here! The temperature begins to get cooler. The days start to get shorter. However, that doesn't mean we quit riding! Some of the best and most beautiful colors of leaves are beginning to turn this time of year. I hope you can get out and ride and enjoy the fall weather.

★ **Glenville ALR Chapter #264** hosted the final leg of the 2026 Nation of Patriots (NOP) Tour last month with the homecoming. They escorted the Rider's with the NOP US Flag from Eden Prairie Harley Davidson to Albert Lea. This flag traveled the United States for 130 days. The route through all 50 states and just over 14,500 miles.

★ Once it returned to Albert Lea they handed out a flag of each 50 states to a rider with a passenger. Also, with a flag representing each of the military branches was handed out to another 5 riders.

★ The riders, around 120-150 bikes, proceeded from the edge of town through the city. Residents greeted them as they ended the ride Bergdales Harley Davidson in Albert Lea. At Bergdale's they held a ceremony at which time the US Flag and the NOP banner were handed back to Glenville's ALR Director, Bruce Camerer to present to Post #264's Commander, Bruce Stilley.

★ This last month ALR's along with other local riders helped to escort the Vietnam Memorial Wall from Albert Lea to the North Iowa Event Center in Mason City, IA . It was on display during the Veterans Stand Down.

★ **October 3rd is the 1st District Fall Rally.** The general session will run from 10:00AM to 4:00PM. Our 1st District ALR will be taking time to meet from tentative 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM or once Legion business is taken care of. I really hope to see members from each of the ALR Chapters in attendance this year.

★ **Operation Green Light** is in November. I encouraged everyone to put a green light bulb in your outside light fixture to show everyone that you care.

★ Just another reminder. ALR membership is open to all active members of The American Legion, The American Auxiliary and The Sons of The American Legion. Members must own and ride a motorcycle. Also, they need to maintain active membership within The American Legion Family. Chapters please be checking your memberships to making sure that each of your members have their 2027 dues paid up.

★ If your chapter has an upcoming ride or event please send your flyers into 1st District Newsletter, bigredonenewsletter@gmail.com.

★ There are still a number of great days of riding yet this year. I hope you can get out there and enjoy those final days of fall. Be extra careful. Be safe and have fun.



★ **OPERATION GREEN LIGHT IN NOVEMBER**

Show your support for our veterans by putting a green light bulb in your outside light fixture.

FREEDOM
★
BROTHERHOOD
★
SERVICE
★
VETERANS
★
COMMUNITY

Wes Halverson
Director, 1st District



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

251st MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

Celebrating America's 250th

Saturday, November 7, 2026

4:30 PM – 11:00 PM

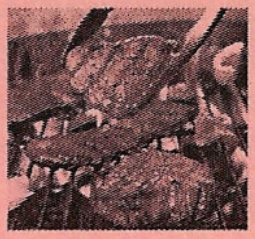
Hilton Event Center
10 East Center Street
Rochester, MN 55904

Scan for tickets & information
www.mclthor606.org



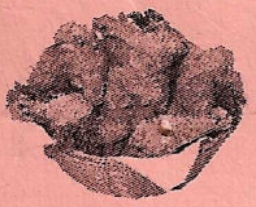
ADAMS AMERICAN LEGION POST 146

Chicken, Fish, & Steak Fry Schedule



Serving Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.*

*(*Unless Noted)* (507) 582-3266



2026 SCHEDULE

Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....September 12
Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL .....September 19
Steak Fry, Trap Team .....October 3
Chicken & Steak Fry, Auxiliary .....October 17
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....November 7
Steak Fry, Knights of Columbus .....November 21
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion.....December 5
Chicken & Steak Fry, Snowmobile Club.....December 19

2027 SCHEDULE

Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion .....January 9
Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....January 23
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion .....February 6
Fish Fry, Legion .....February 12
Chicken & Steak Fry, SAL.....February 20
Fish Fry, Auxiliary .....March 5
Steak Fry, Sportsman Club .....March 13
Fish Fry, SAL .....March 19
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion .....April 3
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion Baseball Team .....April 17
Chicken & Steak Fry, Legion .....May 1
Chicken & Steak Fry, Trap Team .....May 15
Steak Fry, Legion, Dairy Days .....June 12
Chicken Fry, Legion, Dairy Days .....June 13

~ E-Tabs & Bingo Now Available ~

***** MUSEUM OPEN 6-8 P.M. EVERY FRY *****

www.adamslegionpost146.com • Facebook - visit: Adams Post 146

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION | Leon J. Wetzel Squadron 9 Winona, MN

2026 Event Dates

April 9	Broasted Chicken: 5:00 to 6:30 or until gone
April 18	SAL Chicken Q. Serving 11:00 to 2:00 or until gone
May 9	Chicken Q - Event Sponsor is Winona Chiefs Baseball. They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken. Serving 11:00 to 2:00 or until gone
May 10	Mother's Day Breakfast Serving time TBD
May 14	Broasted Chicken: 5:00 to 6:30 or until gone
September 10	Broasted Chicken: 5:00 to 6:30 or until gone
September 19	SAL Chicken- Q. Serving 11:00 to 2:00 or until gone
October 8	Broasted Chicken: 5:00 to 6:30 or until gone
October 10	Chicken Q - Event Sponsor is Winona Cotter HS Speech Team (TBD) They will sell tickets and serve the meals. SAL will grill the chicken. Serving 11:00 to 2:00 or until gone
November 12	Broasted Chicken: 5:00 to 6:30 or until gone
December 10	Broasted Chicken: 5:00 to 6:30 or until gone

We hope you can join us and experience the great family environment at the Winona American Legion.



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OPEN SUNDAYS

AT NOON

SEPT 13 THROUGH FOOTBALL SEASON

HAPPY HOUR PRICES

SPORTS TIPBOARDS



BLOODY MARYS



HORS D'OEUVRES WELCOME



REGISTER FOR AN
AUTHENTIC VIKING JERSEY
EACH SUNDAY

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY
DRAWING

EYOTA LEGION

Good Food. Cold Drinks. Great Company. Every Sunday!


EYOTA
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Fall
CRAFT SALE
Saturday, October 24th
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Eyota Legion
Come shop a great selection of handmade crafts, unique gifts & fall favorites!
Handmade with
LUNCH AVAILABLE
11-1
Only $10
for a great meal!
Everyone Welcome!

ALR WING NIGHT

302 E Sarnia Winona, MN

2nd Tuesday

530 PM until 7 PM

Public Welcome

Wings and Fries with Celery and Dipping Sauces



***Spicy Buffalo *Buffalo *Honey BBQ**

***Garlic Parmesan**

$8.00

Eyota Legion Riders

Pancake Breakfast

Pancakes,
Scrambled Eggs
and Sausage
Coffee, Milk & Juice



$12- Adults

$8 - Kids ages 6-10

Free - ages
5 & younger

Sunday, Oct 11

9am - Noon

Eyota American Legion

North Star Honor Flight

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Proceeds to go to the North Star Honor Flight

Exciting News !!!

Our American Legion Post 9 is now offering

Turbo Bingo

with our Wednesday night bingo !!



Come play **Turbo Bingo** (bingo on a tablet) here at the Legion and have chances to win $$$!

- Tablet plays the bingo for you. No bingo dobbing needed !
- 3 different Turbo Bingo Packages to choose from !
- Can play bingo on sheets with dobber and/or bingo on a tablet !
- Every Wednesday - Doors open at 6pm - Bingo begins at 7pm.

Leon J. Wetzel American Legion Post 9

Gambling License: 00075

The Legion Riders serve a meal on the 4th Wed of each month.

There is always a table full of desserts as well.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

POST #94

★ RUSHFORD MN ★

FALL COLOR RIDE

OCTOBER 10TH, 2026

$25 PER RIDER

$15 PASSENGER

REGISTRATION STARTS AT **9:00 AM**

KSU AT **10:30 AM**

ALL STREET LEGAL BIKES AND "COOL CARS" ARE WELCOME

RAIN OR SHINE



★ ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT VETERANS ★

CONTACT MARIE @ 507-421-0134
FOR INFORMATION

LEGION RIDERS

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH 9AM—12 PM

$12.00 AT THE DOOR

BREAKFAST INCLUDES: EGGS, SAUSAGE, BISQUITS & GRAVY,

COFFEE, MILK OR ORANGE JUICE AND

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES

PROCEEDS GO TO THE VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT

AUSTIN AMERICAN LEGION POST 91

809 12TH ST SW, AUSTIN MN

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 91