

THE MIGHTY 1ST DISTRICT FAMILY NEWSLETTER

The American Legion Department of
Minnesota

September 2026



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1ST DISTRICT FAMILY CALENDAR

The American Legion Department of
Minnesota

September & October 2026 Events

Date	Event	Time / Place	Details
Sept 9-13	Camporee	Legionville	The 60th annual Camporee is a fundraiser for Legionville Education Center.
Sept 17-20	ALR Romp	Legionville	
Sept 26	Fall Rally	Byron Post 119	
Sept 29-30	Zgoda Memorial Deer Hunt	Legionville	
Oct 3-4	Zgoda Memorial Turkey Hunt	Legionville	
Oct 22-24	Dept Fall Conference	St Cloud MN	Rivers Edge Convention Center



1st District Legion Contacts



Veterans ★ Defense ★ Youth ★ Americanism ★ Communities

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Chaplain

Empty

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Area Three Vice Commander

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Area Four Commander

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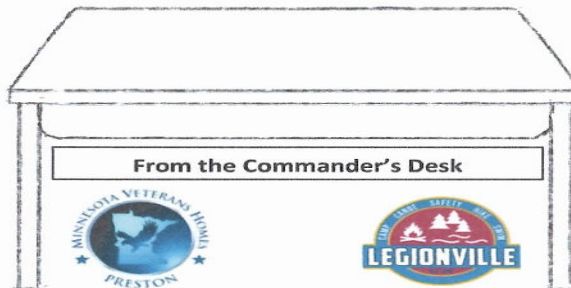
Members of the 1st District American Legion Family.... After a great deal of consideration...I have. decided that after the occurrence of certain things, it is time to publish the following Statement: As per discussion with Department personnel, I have found out the District Commander has the final word 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 If an article does not meet the Standards of the District- it will not be published....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. Please note: 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





Good morning, everyone. I want to talk about projects. If you were at the picnic, you heard it said that Commander's Projects are not about the Commander, but about what we believe in. It shows the communities around us what we believe in.

My projects are the activities program at Preston MN Veterans Home and the general fund at Legionville. I'm giving 75% to Preston and 25% to Legionville.

I hope all members and posts that believe in these programs help by giving. Our District Auxiliary President Wanda is continuing to work on getting that Putting Green in at Preston, that is her project.

Our Riders Director Wes is focusing on Fund 85 and The Nation of Patriots.

Information about all district projects is on our district website:
www.mnmightyfirst.org/district-projects

Thank you all for your support
 Myron

Chaplain's Corner

September is a month of remembrance.

Pillar 2: National Preparedness Month

Are you aware of all the major events that have happened in past Septembers in this country?
We have

Patriot Day on the 11th; our 25th anniversary.

American Legion's 90th birthday on Sept 16th ([see more information](#)).

Constitution Week observes the adoption of our unique document of freedom; 17 – 23.

Air Force's 89th Birthday on the 18th.

POW/MIA Recognition Day on the 18th also; 47th anniversary.

Gold Star Mother's Day is on the 27th; its 90th anniversary.

What struck me about this is how much we value remembering from where we come from, not just the joys but also the injuries. We strive hard to prevent the injuries from recurring and we celebrate the anniversaries of the joys because we want more.

Our gracious Lord watches over us during these times. When we rejoice, He does too. When we mourn, He does too.

Lord, watch over us. Help us see friends who are hurting and let us lift them up. Let us see strangers who need a hand up and let us reach out. Let us celebrate loudly the blessings you deliver to us so we can encourage each other. Amen.

Ways to Honor Pillar 2

Sept 1	Club registration opens for Jr Shooting Sports Program	Register a Team
Sept 3 2:30 – 4:00 ET	Be The One Suicide Prevention Training	Be the One
Sept 16 5:30 – 7:00 ET	Be The One Suicide Prevention Training	Be the One
Sept 17-23	Constitution Week – Time to kick-off Oratorical outreach (see Oratorical)	
Sept 24 2:30 – 4:00 ET	Be The One Suicide Prevention Training	Be the One

ADJUTANT'S

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In the movie *Starship Troopers*, actor Michael Ironside plays Civics teacher Jean Raszak. Prior to being a teacher, he served in the military and does get recalled. In one class, he discusses the benefits of service. In this futuristic world, service gives you the right to vote, live where you want, continue onto higher education (of your choosing), and have children.

Yes, you must earn these rights. How fortunate we are to live in a country where we are accorded these rights by our Republic. How sad it is to know how few take advantage of them. A LinkedIn Poll, [2024 Civic Engagement](#), showed that 79.7% of Veterans are registered to vote. Only 71% voted. That is better than the rest of the overall population, non-veterans are on voting around 50% when they are enthusiastic about the topic or person. We have to do better. The poll goes on to show that older vets are turning out in higher numbers than younger vets; this is also in line with the rest of the population. The American Legion gets it, that's why voting and civic participation fall directly under **Americanism**, is the third pillar of The American Legion.

As we enter, what will be, an energetically contested mid-term season, I thought it would be good to put out some reminders. This is all from TAL's website under Americanism.

The Americanism Pillar and Voting

- **Civic Duty:** The Americanism pillar promotes patriotism, good government, and active participation by citizens in the electoral process.
- **Get Out the Vote (GOTV):** The Legion runs nonpartisan programs to encourage all Americans to register, educate themselves, and turn out to vote on election day.
- **Community Support:** Local posts often serve as nonpartisan registration sites, polling places, or venues for public candidate forums. [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

Strict Nonpartisan Rules

- **No Endorsements:** Under its federal charter and constitution, The American Legion is strictly nonpolitical and nonpartisan. It cannot endorse or oppose any candidate or political party. [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)
- **Individual Action:** Individual members (*Legionnaires*) are fully encouraged to vote and participate in politics, but they must do so as private citizens—without wearing official Legion caps or apparel to political events or partisan rallies. [1](#), [2](#)

From Your Membership Director

There is no membership report this week. I assume it is due to the National Convention in Louisville, Ky.

If at any time you want to see the latest report, log on to mnlegion.org, membership and then membership reports. click on MY 2027 Reports.

Last week the 1st District was in 4th place. Please start working hard on getting memberships processed.

The membership challenge has not been updated for 2027 yet. The first goal will be in early September for 50%. We were at 46.95% as of 8/19, so we are there.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns.

Thank you!

Mary Hanson

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Area 1 Vice Commander

Hello

I am Dick Grobe of Lake City post 110.

I did this position in 1990 and was District Commander 1994-1995

So, I am coming out of retirement to fulfill this position.

Please, all post membership directors do not hold onto membership.

Get them sent in ASAP!

Dick Grobe



Area 4 Vice Commander

Hello Legionnaires,

I would like to start with a big thank you to Commander Einar Myhre at Post 140 and Margene Myhre who is the President of Unit 140. They hosted the District Picnic on the 16th of August in Grand Meadow. What a wonderful time. Our new Department Commander Pam Krill was there. There was broasted chicken, corn on the cob and lots of other good food provided by those who attended. Were you there? Keep in mind, the picnic is always in the 1st half of August. Everyone is invited to come. Come and share a great meal and ideas.

If your post would like to have district officer attend events, please reach out by phone or email ahead of time. All our contact information is included in this newsletter. Depending on schedules, we will get as many people there as possible. Us "old" people do not always keep up on social media and can miss events in the district.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us for any reason, good or bad. We are here to help.

Mary Hanson

Area 4 Vice Commander



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 previous 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.

1st District Auxiliary Contacts



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Past President

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From the desk of Auxiliary President

As we start our 2026-2027 Auxiliary Year let us all work at helping with membership just by renewing

our own membership. Membership is up to all of us, not just our Membership Chairman.

Membership Chair Michelle will be giving you more info on the contest at department and district levels.

Please use the resources noted below for program related questions. Only contact the Department

Office with administrative questions This has come from the Department Office to the Districts.

Resources for Chairman and Presidents: Check the Unit Mailings available at mnala.org

Check the Minnesota ALA Unit Guide available at mnala.org

Check the ALA Handbook available at alaforveterans.org

Check you District Newsletter

Ask your District Chairman

Unit Presidents, contact you District President for assistance.

ALA Department of Minnesota Website: mnala.org

ALA National Website: alaforveterans.org (Note: When accessing, click on Member Only tab. This will prompt you to register one time only with a password. You will need your membership number to register. Our national website has many useful tools for Members, Units and Districts.

We all need to start using these tools that are out there!

I look forward to invitations to your units this year, last year was disappointing. We are off to a good start, with 3 invites already! Thank you!

Upcoming Events: District Fall Rally in Dodge Center: Saturday, October 3rd

We would love to see new faces! Please join us we will have membership information from our Department Membership Chair Wendy Grittner!

Auxiliary President continued

Department Fall Conference in StCloud: Thursday-Saturday, October 22 -24.

I really recommend Fall Conference to anyone that really wants to have a better understanding of this Year's programs and how to make them work for you unit.

Coffee Talk in Adams: Saturday, November 7th 9-10:30am

Coffee Talk is open discussion on what is or is not happening in our units. The good and the bad, along with suggestions how we can make things better for our units and members. We are repeating from a great session last year in Freeborn. Anyone from the American Legion Family is welcome. Everyone's input is appreciated and we can all learn a little bit from each other. Coffee, juice and donuts are provided.

Please try to join us. 9-10:30am

District Christmas Party: Preston Veterans Home, Sunday, December 13th
11am-2pm

More information will be coming! Please put on your calendar! A great time to tour and visit the residents!

Thank you to the 10 units that will be going to electronic Unit Mailings! It is greatly appreciated by the department! Michelle will be sending information that needs to get out to units from myself, the district and department. I would suggest that units send the unit mailings to their chairman every month so they are aware of what is happening with their programs. I am still hearing too much, No One gave me the information, in today's world this should not be.

Thank you for you do for our veterans, children and our communities! Remember Service Not Self

President Wanda

District Officers & Chairman for 2026-2027

Position	Name	Unit	Address	City	State	Zip	Cell	Email
President	Wanda Prescher	164	4826 Tee Ct SW	Rochester	MN	55902	507-254-0304	w.prescher1951@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Sandra Fredrickson	264	771 2nd StSW	Glenville	MN	56036	507-383-3776	dsfredrickson@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	Leah Milburn	330	306 Willow St	Sargeant	MN	55973	507-272-2133	leahmilburn81@gmail.com
Sergeant at Arms	Tonia Betterman	77	1625 Crestview Lane	Owatonna	MN	55906	507-456-2315	betttm88@outlook.com
Honorary Junior President	Ashlyn Anderson	164	517 4Th Ave SE	Stewartville	MN	55976	507-951-5831	kristin-mp8@yahoo.com
Chaplain	Audrey Farnsworth	164	302 1st E	Stewartville	MN	55976	507-319-0257	Audreyivah41@gmail.com
Historian								
Parliamentarian	Louise Kleiboer	299	340 W Melby Dr	Mabel	MN	55954	507-493-5007	louisekleiboer@gmail.com
Secretary	Lesley Heimer	146	204 W Main St	Adams	MN	55909	612-756-1649	lesleyheimer@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Tonia Betterman	77	1625 Crestview Laneo	Owatonna	MN	55906	507-456-2315	betttm88@outlook.com
Past District President	Michelle Weaver	595	1305 Willow St Apt 39	LaCrescent	MN	55947	608-304-8773	weaver.michelle595@gmail.com
<u>Chairman</u>								
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Constitution & Standing Rules	Louise Kleiboer	229	340 W Melby Dr	Mabel	MN	55954	507-493-5007	louisekleiboer@gmail.com
Education	Leah Milburn	330	306 Willow St	Sargeant	MN	55973	507-272-2133	leahmilburn81@gmail.com
Finance Chairman	Sandy Fredrickson	264	771 2nd St SW	Glenville	MN	56036	507-383-3776	dsfredrickson@gmail.com
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Finance Committee 2								
Finance Committee 3								
Finance Committee 4								
Gift Shop Chairman								
Girls State Chairman	Wanda Prescher	164	4826 Tee Ct SW	Rochester	MN	55902	507-254-0304	w.prescher1951@gmail.com
History								
Junior Activities	Wanda Prescher	164	4826 Tee Ct SW	Rochester	MN	55902	507-254-0304	w.prescher1951@gmail.com
Leadership	Nancy Lewison	146	68127 150th St	Adams	MN	55909	507-440-2090	lewisonnancy@gmail.com
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Membership	Michelle Weaver	595	1305 Willow St Apt 39	LaCrescent	MN	55947	608-304-8773	weaver.michelle595@gmail.com

Memorial	Audrey Farnsworth	164	302 1st E	Stewartville	MN	55976	507-319-0257	Audreyivah41@gmail.com
Memory Book								
National Security								
Armed Forces Servicemens Center								
Past President Parley	Michelle Weaver	595	1305 Willow St Apt 39	LaCrescent	MN	55947	608-304-8773	weaver.michelle595@gmail.com
Poppy	Sandy Fredrickson	264	771 2nd St SW	Glenville	MN	56036	507-338-3776	dsfredrickson@gmail.com
Public Relations	Michelle Weaver	595	Willow St Apt 39	LaCrescent	MN	55947	608-304-8773	weaver.michelle595@gmail.com
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Wanda Prescher	164	4826 Tee Ct SW	Rochester	MN	55902	507-254-0304	w.prescher1951@gmail.com

District Officers & Chairman for 2026-2027

Position	Name	Unit	Address	City	State	Zip	Cell	Email
Advisory Board								
Advisory Committee 1	Nancy Lewison	146	68127 150th St	Adams	MN	55909	507-440-2090	lewisonnancy@gmail.com
Advisory Committee 2	Chandra Gilles	146	65807 145th St	Adams	MN	55909	507-440-0754	chandra.gilles@yahoo.com
Advisory Committee 3								
Advisory Committee 4								
Risk & Compliance								
Risk & Compliance Committee Chairman	Sandy Fredrickson	264	771 2nd St SW	Glenville	MN	56036	507-338-3776	dsfredrickson@gmail.com
Risk & Compliance Committee 1	Tonia Bettermann	77	1625 Crestview Lane	Owatonna	MN	55906	507-456-2315	betttm88@outlook.com
Risk & Compliance Committee 2								
Nominating								
Nominating Lead Chairman								
Nominating Committee 1								
Nominating Committee 2								
Standing Rules								
Standing Rules Lead Chairman	Louise Kleiboer	299	340 W. Melby Dr	Mabel	MN	55954	507-493-5007	louisekleiboer@gmail.com
Standing Rules Committee 1	Leslie Heimer	146	204 W Main St	Adams	MN	55909	612-756-1649	lesleyheimer@hotmail.com
Standing Rules Committee 2								



 **AMERICAN
LEGION**
AUXILIARY

**1ST DISTRICT
PRESIDENT'S PROJECT**

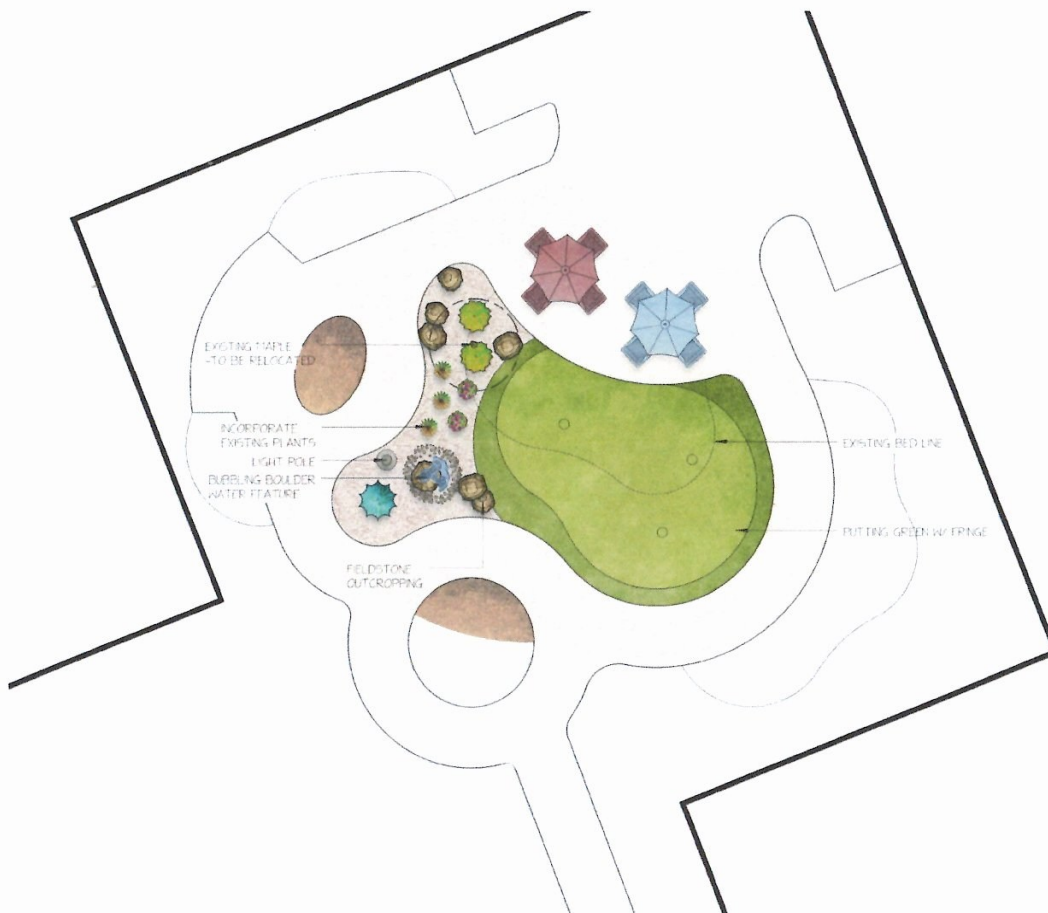
PUTTING GREEN

**for our Veterans at
the Veterans Home
in Preston**

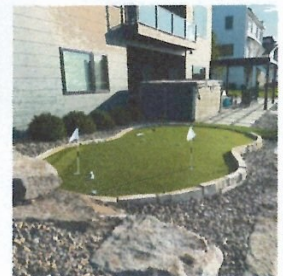
We are raising funds to help construct a putting green with a water feature in the large courtyard at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Preston. This will be an amenity for both Veterans and their families.

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



Membership Report

From the 1st District Membership Chairman

Outsmart • Outmaneuver • Outlive — The Membership Challenge Is On!

A new membership year is underway, and **District 1 is ready to make membership fun, competitive, and rewarding!** Following this year's theme, "**Outsmart • Outmaneuver • Outlive,**" our membership program will focus on recruiting new members, renewing and retaining current members, bringing former members back, and keeping membership moving throughout the year. Every Unit has an opportunity to participate, earn recognition, and help strengthen our American Legion Auxiliary family.

One part of the challenge will be our **Race to the Target**. At each Department membership target, the first District 1 Unit to reach the required percentage will receive **\$20**, and the second Unit will receive **\$10**. Our targets begin with **25% by September 15**, followed by 60%, 85%, 95%, 100%, and finally 102%. Units will also have opportunities to earn special **Outsmart, Outmaneuver, and Outlive recognition**, along with some fun Survivor-style challenges throughout the year.

We are also introducing a more detailed **District 1 Membership Competition for 2026–2027**, designed to recognize meaningful growth and encourage Units to think strategically about membership. The competition will reward efforts in areas such as **new member growth, renewals and retention, education goals, and participation in District events**. There will be additional bonus opportunities and recognition along the way, with awards presented in May 2027. The goal isn't simply to win a competition—it is to encourage every Unit to finish the year stronger than it started.

Watch your email! This coming week, I will be emailing additional information to all **Unit Presidents and Unit Membership Chairmen** explaining the membership challenges and how your Unit can participate. Please share the information with your membership team, start planning your strategy, and get ready for a fun year. Remember: **every membership matters, every renewal matters, and every new member matters!**

If you have any questions, please reach out to me. I am happy to help throughout the membership year.

Michelle Weaver

1st District Membership Chairman

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1st District SAL Contacts



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Greetings Legion Family,

September 11th will mark the 25th anniversary of one of the most fateful mornings in the history of our great Country. On the morning of September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked four commercial airliners. Two were flown into the World Trade Center towers, one into the Pentagon, and the fourth, United Flight 93, crashed into a field in Pennsylvania after the brave passengers learned what was happening and fought back. Nearly 3,000 lives were lost, including those of more than 400 first responders, in the only attack on United States soil since WWII.

In December 2001, Congress designated September 11 as Patriot Day. In 2009, Congress designated Patriot Day as a "National Day of Service and Remembrance" encouraging Americans to honor the victims through volunteer service.



Thank you to all of the SAL members for the many hours you volunteer in support of veterans, first responders and your communities.

If you read Greg's membership report last month, he stated we would not be delivering packets this year but instead would set a couple dates and locations for packet pick-ups. We made this decision in part because the 2027 membership packets were delayed by a cyberattack at the printing company and there was talk of possibly not getting them until Fall Conference in October. Having no vice-commanders, and with both of us having significant time constraints, we did not feel we would be able to distribute them in a timely manner.

When the packets unexpectedly arrived at the end of July, I called an audible. After several hours and 900+ miles of driving over a couple of weekends, as well as some help from Detachment Commander Chuck Stone during the ALR Legacy Run, all of the packets have been delivered.

So please start getting those renewals in. Remember, your 2027 renewal must be processed at National **before** January 1 to keep your membership in good standing.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Erickson".

Josh Erickson
First District SAL Commander

SAL 1st District

Membership

Membership packets for 2027 have been delivered, thanks mostly to our Commander Josh Erickson.

Now the responsibility lies with the squadrons themselves to get things moving. Let's strive to get at least one membership in from each squadron. This will help to get squadrons off the goose. We have already made some good strides.

What squadron will be first to hit their membership goal?

Speaking of starting... remember on line renewal is available now for 2027 membership.

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



QUICKLY AND EASILY RENEW ONLINE
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



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



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@hbc.com Cell 507-312-2222

September Chaplain's Article

By Christopher Taulbee, 1st District SAL Chaplain

As we move into September, I'm reminded of how quickly the seasons change and how each new month gives us an opportunity to pause, reflect, and reset our focus. For many, this time of year marks a return to routine—school starting, summer winding down, and communities preparing for fall events. It's a natural moment to take stock of where we are spiritually, emotionally, and in service to others.

In the Sons of the American Legion, our mission is rooted in **honor, remembrance, and service**. These values don't shift with the seasons; they remain steady. But *we* sometimes need a gentle reminder to reconnect with them. September offers that reminder.

Let us take time this month to honor the veterans whose sacrifices allow us the freedoms we enjoy. Reach out to someone who may be struggling—whether a veteran, a family member, or a neighbor. A simple act of kindness can be the spark that lifts someone's spirit. Service doesn't always require grand gestures; often it's the quiet moments of compassion that make the greatest impact.

As we gather for meetings, events, and community activities, may we carry forward a spirit of unity and purpose. Let us continue to support our Legion Family, strengthen our communities, and live out the values entrusted to us.

May God bless our veterans, our families, and each of you as we enter this new season with renewed faith and commitment.

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

ALR Director Corner

Hello Riders!

Another month of riding motorcycles is done for 2026. However, there are still a few good months with beautiful days of riding left. It's so much fun to ride along the river in the fall. A group of us try to do it each year. The fresh air and beautiful colors of the trees' turning color is sometimes breathtaking. Also, spending time riding with good friends cannot be beaten.

Sadly, there have been several fatal motorcycle accidents in the last month in our area. I have noticed an abundance of deer and wild turkeys lately. This will only get worse once crops are being harvested. Please be cautious!

Another Veteran Stand Down will be held in Mason City, IA on September 26th at the Mason City fairgrounds. Tell your friends, families, and other veterans about this event. It is an amazing event with a lot to offer our veterans and their families.

September 19th is the return of the Nation of Patriots Tour. It will return to Bergdale's Harley Davidson in Albert Lea and will be hosted by Glenville's ALR Chapter #264. If anyone is interested in riding the last leg of the tour you can come to Faribault Harley Davidson on the morning of the 19th. The flag will be coming down from Eden Prairie, and you can join the tour at Faribault. We will have KSU at 10:15AM to ride the last stretch of the tour to Albert Lea. This Flag will have been traveled the United States for 115 days to includes Hawaii and Alaska. The organization, NOP, is 100% volunteer-run. 100% of funds raised go directly to assisting veterans and their families facing financial hardship. I hope other riders will join us for the final stretch of the tour.

I am sure there are other rides and events within the 1st District in the month of September to look forward to. However, the Nation of Patriots Tour on the 19th is the only ride that I know of at the time.

If any chapter has upcoming events and/or rides please let me know so I can post them in the newsletter.

ALR Director Continued

I really hope everyone has a great rest of summer/fall riding motorcycles and can continue to do so for the next couple of months!

Remember to get your members to pay their new year of dues. There are only two requirements to be a member. Members must own and ride motorcycles and maintain active membership within The American Legion Family. So let us make sure everyone meets these requirements.

Be safe everyone!

Wes Halverson



Members of the Glenville American Legion Riders (ALR) Chapter #264 received **first place in the American Legion Media & Communications Annual Contest** in the Public Relations category for Legion Posts with up to 249 members. The award recognized their work preparing for and promoting the **2026 Nation of Patriots (NOP) Flag Tour**. Now in its 17th year, the nationwide motorcycle tour travels through all 50 states over 115 days, raising awareness and funds for veterans and their families. One hundred percent of donations collected through the tour goes to veterans and families in need.

Glenville ALR Chapter #264 began pursuing the opportunity to host the tour in September 2025 and was selected in November as the **official starting and hosting location for the 2026 Flag Tour**—making Glenville Post #264 the first American Legion Post ever to host the event and marking the first time the tour began in Minnesota. Festivities kicked off May 15 at the Glenville Legion, followed by the official ride start May 16 at Bergdale Harley-Davidson in Albert Lea. The first leg traveled to Mason City, Iowa, before continuing across the country, including Alaska and Hawaii, with the tour scheduled to return to Bergdale Harley-Davidson on September 19. The Riders credit the tremendous support of Glenville Post #264, local organizations, area American Legion Posts, businesses, and the community for helping make this historic event possible.

Scott Kallberg (Road Captain), Bruce Camerer (Director), and Larry Larson (Past Director).





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

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

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.

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.

**DODGE CENTER
CLASSIC**
Cat & Bike Show
AMERICAN LEGION POST 384



JUNE 2nd • JULY 7th • AUG. 4th 5PM-9PM • SEPT. 5th NOON-9PM



**LET'S ROCK AND RUMBLE
WITH
NASHVILLE BOUND**

**Rockin'
Hep Cats**
COLTAN • TODD • BEN • ERIC



**PLAYING
50's
AND
60's
ROCKABILLY**



SHOWING AT THE AMERICAN LEGION : DODGE CENTER, MN

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-Tab's & Bingo Now Available ~

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

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

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



Sons of The American Legion

La Crescent Squadron 595

Omelet & French Toast

Breakfast

Sunday, September 27, 2026
8 am to Noon

La Crescent Area Event Center

Build Your Own Omelets - \$12.00

- **Fixings:** Ham, Sausage, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Cheese, Taco Fixings, or Pizza Fixings

French Toast - \$7.00



**Breakfast also
includes
Toast, Coffee,
Juice, and Milk**



NORTH IOWA-SOUTHERN MINNESOTA
VETERAN STAND DOWN
announces

★ **OPERATION** ★
ECHOES OF VALOR
TRAVELING MEMORIAL
VIETNAM WALL



**Operation
Golden Hawk**

Commemorating America's **250th** Anniversary

★ **SEPTEMBER 23, 2026** ★

≡ **KICKSTANDS UP AT 11:00 A.M.** ≡

**LEAVING PETRO TRAVEL CENTER
OF ALBERT LEA**

- ★ ESCORT LED BY
MANLY AMERICAN LEGION
RIDERS POST 110
- ★ OPEN TO ALL RIDERS
- ★ DESTINATION-
NORTH IOWA FAIRGROUNDS



*Let's supply the **THUNDER**
as The Memorial Wall
travels from Minnesota to Iowa*



TOGETHER WE RIDE ★ TOGETHER WE HONOR

North Iowa Southern Minnesota Veteran Stand Down

North Iowa Event Center

3700 4th Street SW Mason City, IA



8:00 DOORS OPEN

10:00 Opening Ceremony

16:00 Closing Ceremony

26 September 2026

Open to all Veterans and their family

Veteran Stand Down

Assistance available for insecurities with:

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| * Housing | * Career Planning | * Educational Advice |
| * Food | * Physical Health | * Financial Advice |
| * Clothing | * Mental Health | * Legal Advice |

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE:

Hot meals, haircuts, BINGO,
prize raffles, massages, KILROY band,
DJ, military surplus
distribution and more!



Serving the following communities:

Iowa: Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Mitchell,
Winnebago, Worth, Wright. Minnesota: Faribault, Freeborn, Mower

DJ Service donated by:





★ AMERICAN LEGION ★ RIDERS



— GLENVILLE 264 —

PRESENT THE
★ RETURN OF THE ★
PATRIOT
TOUR™

★ SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 ★

UNITED BY **FLAG.**
DRIVEN BY **HONOR.**
FUELED BY **FREEDOM.**



1

STARTS AT
WILD PRAIRIE
HARLEY-DAVIDSON



EDEN PRAIRIE, MN
★ 7:30 A.M. ★

2

JOIN US AT
FARIBAULT
HARLEY-DAVIDSON



FARIBAULT, MN
★ 10:15 A.M. ★

3

PARADE OF FLAGS
THROUGH
ALBERT LEA

★ 12:45 P.M. ★

4

ARRIVES AT
BERGDALE
HARLEY-DAVIDSON



ALBERT LEA, MN
★ 1:00 P.M. ★

HONORING OUR FLAG, NATION, AND HEROES.

★ **JOIN US AS WE RIDE WITH PURPOSE AND PRIDE!** ★
UNITE. SUPPORT. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



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