

5th District E-Flash

November 2016

FROM OUR 5TH DISTRICT COMMANDER

As of the November 2, 2016 Membership Report we are in 10th place with a 69.50% of goal. We are still 165 behind last year but doing better. We have taken the most points in the Kaisersatt Derby 3 times. Keep up the good work and get those renewals in. Our next target date is December 14. Our goal is 75%. We are going to have a Membership Revitalization on November 17 – 19 at the Richfield Post 435. It will be in the Turner room. The schedule is November 17 – 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. and November 19 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. I would like all Post Commanders to encourage their Posts to participate. Even if they come for a couple of hours on one of the days it will help. This is important for our membership and we need participation for it to work. Those who come should bring their cell phone if they have one or they could share with someone else. Bring your phone chargers also. We will try to do a brief training on Thursday morning. I have received the electronic lists from National and there are 1,708 names on it. Also there will be a District Fundraiser at Wold-Chamberlain Post 99 on December 4th. It will be a pancake and sausage breakfast from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The proceeds will go for the MN Veterans home for the purchase of a clavinovas. Any help that can be given for this event would be appreciated. Shop, Ship and Share will be held at the Maplewood Mall on December 2nd & 3rd. This is a joint venture with the 4th District and we need people to show up. It will go from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. Help will be needed to pack care boxes for our troops overseas.

FROM OUR NATIONAL COMMANDER:

Dear Legion Family Members,

The American Legion extends its congratulations to presidential nominee Donald Trump for his victory in Tuesday's election after an historic and memorable campaign. Congratulations also go out to the newly elected members of Congress. With the election concluded and the transition of power taking shape, it's time for us to rise above the vitriol that flooded the campaign. It's time for cooler heads to prevail and to work together for our beloved and grateful nation – the one we defended with our lives. It's time for our elected representative to work toward the good of all Americans, regardless of their gender, age or race.

It's time for our new commander in chief to shore up our national defense, protect our northern and southern borders, and deliver a budget to Congress that ensures that our military has the resources to keep Americans and our allies safe.

It's time to defeat the Islamic State. Period!

It's time for President-elect Trump to follow through on his pledge to improve health care for all veterans.

It's time for the new president to reveal the details of his plan to provide a spark to the economy and get more Americans – especially veterans –working again.

It's time for Congress to reform and modernize the archaic VA appeals process.

The people have spoken. The president-elect and new Congress must set aside their differences, their political agenda and work for the common good. President-elect

Trump and our democratically elected Congress must address these and other issues which are vital for the success of our nation and our veterans

It's Time.

Carry the legacy forward

Charles E. Schmidt

National Commander

The Wells Foundation presents a concert HONORING OUR VETERANS. The University of Minnesota Health Sciences Orchestra will perform at Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, 519 Oak Grove Street, Mpls.

The concert is dedicated to the memory Dr. Robert Goodale, a veteran, trombonist in the University of Minnesota Health Sciences Orchestra. Admission is free. You will have an opportunity make a free will offering to support the Wells Foundation's funding of housing and affiliated programs for homeless veterans.

Congratulations to the ALR the entire American Legion Family. Veterans Flag Day at Marcy Open School in Minneapolis was held October 14th. Principal Donna Andrews, Marcy Open School K-8, invited the MNALR and Ruth Fingerson, University Lutheran Church of Hope, to dedicate the 30 classroom American Flags that the Church brought from TAL National Emblem Sale. As the children got off their school bus, they were greeted by a fire truck motorcycles and the American Legion Dept. of MN Veterans fishing boat. At the school assembly Principal Donna Andrews introduced Dr. Jody Hassing, MNALR who rode in on a motorcycle (to a deafening roar), and then put on her Doctorate cap and gown. She did an awesome job of teaching the children proper respect to the American Flag when she brought in the JROTC Colin Powell Academy high school color guard, after which she introduced Cheryl Leigh Reko who performed a spectacular version of the National Anthem. Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Minnesota Department Commander Mick Aguirre taught the meaning of respect and etiquette toward the Pledge of Allegiance. American Legion Department Commander Denise Milton taught the youth on how they too can become successful by learning, applying themselves, and having a dream to make a difference. The program ended with a deafening roar when 3 certificates for success in serving the youth of the United State of America, signed by American Legion National Commander Charles E. Schmidt, were presented to the 3 custodians of Marcy Open School.

It is with sorrow and sympathy that we announce the passing of George Karnas, Past Department Baseball Director, past District Baseball Director and Chairman of Legion Baseball at Minneapolis-Richfield.

As part of the American Legion's upcoming 100th anniversary celebration, a special website has been created: www.legion.org/centennial. Each post is encouraged to add its history. Post pictures and histories are important to share with other posts, departments and the entire community. Ideally, every post will be listed on the centennial website. A few years ago, we thought that have 100% of the posts submit a Consolidated Post Report but we got the job done. Let's make this project have 100% participation from the 5th District.

On December 2nd and 3rd, the Shop Ship and Share will be at Maplewood Mall. The American Legion in cooperation with the U.S. Postal Service and Maplewood Mall, is creating an opportunity for school students to get involved in this community project during November and early December. Students can prepare packages for deployed Minnesota Military Members for the holidays. We are asking students, groups or classes to donate items, write letters, or draw pictures that will fit in the Large Flat Rate APO/FPO priority boxes. Last year, over 1040 packages were sent to Minnesota military personnel to enjoy and share with other military member. Volunteers are needed and our American Legion Family can make a statement of supporting our troops.

The American Legion has been partners with the Boy Scouts of America since the beginning of our organization in 1919. To enhance that relationship, we offer a scholarship program to Eagle Scouts through our "Eagle Scout of the Year" program. The Minnesota winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The Minnesota winner's scholarship application will be forwarded on to National to be judged. The National organization has mailed nomination applications to each Scoutmaster of American Legion sponsored Boy Scout Troops. Additional application may be obtained from Department Headquarters. The nomination form is to be completed, certified by the Post Commander, and should be in the hands of the District Boy Scout Chairman, Jim Munson no later than February 1, 2017. If a Post would like to donate to the Boys Scout Council Assistance Fund to help support this scholarship please make the check payable to the Minnesota American Legion Foundation – Fund 81. The Foundation is a 501c (3) and thus will be in compliance with the Gambling Control Board.

The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, presents awards each year to a deserving employer in the following categories:

1. Employer of Veterans Award
2. Employment Service Award (DVOP)
3. Employment Service Award (LVER)
4. Employment Service Award (Local office)
5. Employer of older workers Award

6. Enhance the lives of disabled persons award
7. Homeless veterans outreach award

Applications will no longer be mailed to each post. Applications for the above mentioned awards are available at Department Headquarters. Please call Jennifer at [651-291-1800](tel:651-291-1800).

Employment applications are due to Department Headquarters by December 1st

CORRECTIONS TO DISTRICT ROSTER:

Milt Schoen's email address is: Milton,Schoen@Hennepin.US

Viking Post 493 Commander Jack Kamm telephone number [563-564-9412](tel:563-564-9412)

LOOK FOR UPCOMING MAILINGS:

November 18 3rd Renewal Notice
 ROTC Scholarship information will be mailed to Adjutants

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 13 th	Mpls Post 1 Omelet Breakfast 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM
November 17 th – 19 th	5 th District Membership revitalization at Richfield Post 435
November 20 th	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435 Omelet Breakfast 8:00 to noon
November 27 th	Wold Chamberlain Omelet Breakfast 8:00 AM until noon
December 3 rd -	Pearl Harbor Rally at Waite Park
December 4 th -	Pancake & Sausage Breakfast for 5 th District fundraising
project	
	for MN Veteran's Home. 8:00 AM to noon at Wold-Chamberlain Post 99
December 4 th	Hospital Visitation at VAMC @ 2:00PM
December 6 th	5 th District Assembly sponsored by Gopher Post @ Wold-Chamberlain Post 99

Ray Eiden
 Commander

Jim Munson
 Adjutant