

5th District E-Flash October, 2016

FROM COMMANDER RAY EIDEN

As of the September 28th, 2016 Membership Report the 5th District remains in 10th place at 60.54% of goal. We only had 2 Posts submit renewals since the last Membership Report. We need more Posts to get busy with their renewals. The second renewal notice is in the mail. We are down 257 from the same date last year. On a positive note we did take 1st place for most points during the week in the Kaisersatt derby. The next Membership target goal is 65% by Veteran's Day, November 16. Let's not wait until then. We need to set our goal higher and exceed what we did last year. Our next District Meeting will be November 1st at Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435 sponsored by Johnnie Baker Post 291.

The Fall Conference is in Marshall on October 28 – 29. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the many activities and programs of the American Legion and the ways our Department Chairman plan to implement the program this coming year. If you plan on going get your hotel reservation in as soon as possible. You should have sent your registration in by now or you can register at the conference.

FROM DEPT MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR MARK DVORAK

Greetings my fellow Legionnaires,

Thank you for all you do to make sure our amazing organization stays strong. "Oak Strong", well into the future. My theme, "Oak Strong", is how I feel about the American Legion. There is no stronger, vital and more important voice for AMERICAN values than the American Legion. Dale Barnett, Past National Commander said "The American Legion will never compromise its' values".

We talk a lot about membership and what we need to do to find and recruit new members. I am asking the leadership from all posts to seriously consider different ideas in recruiting new members. Below are a few ideas:

Schedule an Open House (your District Vice Commander, Membership Director or Commander can assist). Utilize the lists from MyLegion.org that show expired members and those in Post 1982

Area Revitalizations (work with your District Commander and Membership Director)

Our Department Membership goal is 77,000 and working together as one "American Legion Family", we can achieve this goal. The commitment in planning has to start now!

I've asked each Department Vice Commander and the District Leadership to work with their posts and help them in any way to make our American Legion strong, "Oak Strong"

I am proud to be your Department Membership Director.
Mark Dvorak

Membership Directors and Adjutant:

Your unpaid members should be receiving their second renewal notices. Please remember, any memberships received after September 13th, those members will be receiving this 2nd notice.

American Legion Nation Commander Charles E. Schmidt will award his national commander pin to any Legion member who obtains three new members into the Legion. A new member is any eligible person joining for the 2017 membership year who was not a member of the American Legion during the 2016 membership year. Each member listed must be eligible for membership in the American Legion. Forward the names of SAL members or Auxiliary members to your detachment or unit for use in their respective incentive programs. To maintain the integrity of the national commander's pin incentive program, only one pin will be awarded per individual. Upon receipt, national membership staff will confirm the names and mail the pin directly to the person who earned it. Commander Schmidt's incentive program will end June 30, 2017 or when supplies are exhausted.

October is a busy month for our American Legion Family. A numbers of mailing will be going to the Post and/or Adjutants:

1. October 7, 2016 – 2nd Renewal Notice is mailed
2. October 12, 2016- Membership target is 55%
3. October 28-29, 2016 Fall Conference in Marshall, MN

4. Eagle Scout of the Year Application information will be mailed to Post Adjutants
5. Oratorical information will be mailed to High Schools and Post Adjutant
6. Annual PUFL report – posts will receive credit for their PUFL members and credit letter will be mailed to the Post.

AROUND THE DISTRICT:

October 9 th	Mpls Post 1 - Omelet Breakfast 8:30 to 12:30
October 9 th	Mpls Richfield Post – Annual Chili Cookoff
October 16 th	Mpls Richfield Auxiliary – Omelet Breakfast

It is with sorrow and sympathy that we announce the passing of Bill Lindboe, Past 5th District Commander. He was an outstanding legionnaire who believed in the 4 pillars of the American Legion. On Sunday, October 9th, a memorial service will be held to honor Bill's life and spirit, at the Minneapolis-Richfield American Legion Post 435, 6501 Portland Ave So, Richfield, Minnesota from 11:30 to 1:00PM. As a proud veteran serving in the U.S. Air Force, Bill returned from active duty and served his community, state and nation in the finest traditions of the U.S. Air Force and the American Legion. Bill will be missed in our community.

Ray Eiden
Commander

Jim Munson
Adjutant