

## 5<sup>th</sup> District E Flash September 1, 2016

As of the August 31, 2016 Membership Report the 5<sup>th</sup> District is in 10<sup>th</sup> place at 37.25% of goal. Last year at this time we were at 47.34% of goal. We need to get going and work on those renewals. The Harvest Rally is coming up September 10<sup>th</sup> at Legionville. If you have any memberships to turn in bring them to our District meeting at Post 1 on September 6<sup>th</sup> and Walt will take them to Legionville. Also there are a few Posts that still have not turned in their Officer's Reports. You need to get them in or you will not receive updates for membership or department programs. We also need to update our District directory with the new officers. Our District project this year will be for fundraising efforts together with the Auxiliary and SAL toward the purchase of the clavinos as well donations from the Posts. See you on September 6<sup>th</sup>

Thanks,  
Ray Eiden, 5<sup>th</sup> District Commander

Our District meetings are beginning in September. Our first meeting of the new year will be September 6<sup>th</sup> at Post 1. Executive Committee meeting starts at 6:45PM and the District Assembly for both the Legion and Auxiliary will start at 7:30. Please attend and represent your Post and Unit and bring information back to all of your members.

Congratulations to MINNEAPOLIS GIANTVALLEY POST 234 for winning the Division II Minnesota American Legion Baseball tournament. The tournament was hosted by Le Sueur Post 55 and Henderson Post 74. Andrew Wolpert, Giantvalley, who went 9 – 16 in the tourney and scored the winning run in the championship game, won the Outstanding Player Award. Giantvalley went to the national regional held in Waupun, Wisconsin. They lost to Menasha, WI and Viroqua, WI, being eliminated after two games.

As part of The American Legion' upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, being held in Minneapolis, a special website has been created: [www.legion.org/centennial](http://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.

Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435 will conduct a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM. All members of the American Legion Family as well as the public are cordially invited to attend this patriotic event. American flags which have become faded, frayed, soiled or otherwise unserviceable will be retired by destroying with full respect and honor. Anyone having an unserviceable flag may drop it off at the Post. Following the ceremony, the public is invited to an old fashioned Pig Roast and Blues Grass Music provided by the eight-piece Potluck String Band. Tickets for the Pig Roast are available for sale at the Legion Post for \$10.00 and \$11.00 on the day of the event. All proceeds from this event will allow us to continue to provide services to our Veterans, their families, and our Community.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the John W. Vessey Family. General Vessey was the nation's top military officer as the tenth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1982-1985 His 46 year military career started prior to World War II and continued through the Reagan years. He was an active member of the Brainerd Post 255 and was also active in state veterans projects and was an advisor to the Army.

The Medal of Honor Convention is being held in Minneapolis this October. On behalf of the Medal of Honor Twin Cities, the Minnesota Commanders' Task Force would like to invite veterans and the public to attend the Official Public Welcome Ceremony on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2016 at US Bank Stadium from 10:00AM to 11:00AM. This event serves as an opportunity for Minnesota to show the Medal of Honor recipients our level of enthusiasm and honor by filling seats of the US Bank Stadium. We want to show our support during this opening "once in a lifetime event" as we give a Minnesota welcome to our nation's greatest heroes. Please contact the Department Adjutant – Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chuck Jones [763-607-0245](tel:763-607-0245) or email at [cjmoph1@gmail.com](mailto:cjmoph1@gmail.com).

This fall, Minneapolis will see the expansion of a program that aims to reduce achievement gaps, develop strength of character and leadership skills and prepare a diverse group of students for lifelong **SUCCESS** in

education and personal development. The General Colin L. Powell Leadership Academy offer one-of-a-kind experiences to students with a commitment to leadership, discipline, academic excellence and service. The academy has presented colors at our District Conventions numerous times and has done an outstanding job.

The program emerges from the part-time JROTC program which has been available at MTS high school. During this semester, twenty students will get the chance to be part of Hennepin County's first free, full-time JROTC program. Such programs are very popular students in other parts of the country, but few such programs exist in Minnesota.

Around the District:

- September 4, Hospital Visitation at VAMC @ 2:00PM
- September 6, District Assembly at Mpls Post 1 at 7:30PM
- September 11, Mpls Post 1 Omelet Breakfast 8:30 to 12:30
- September 17, Flag Retirement Ceremony - see above article
- September 25, Wold-Chamberlain Post 99 Pancake Breakfast

If your Post, Unit, Squadron or Chapter wants to contribute information for this E-Flash please contact Adjutant Jim Munson at [Jamesmunson@msn.com](mailto:Jamesmunson@msn.com) and I will be glad to submit to all. If you want to add any email addresses please contact the above also.

Ray Eiden  
Commander

Jim Munson  
Adjutant