

5th District E Flash September 15, 2016

As of the September 14, 2016 Membership Report the 5th District remains in 10th place at 52.41% of goal. The PUFSLs have been processed and are included in the report. The good news is all ten districts exceeded the first 2017 membership target of 50%. We are still 7.50% behind the 10th District for last place. We can do better. Get on the phone or send out mailings to get those renewals in. The Fall Conference is in Marshall on Oct. 28-29. If you plan on going get your hotel reservation in as soon as possible. They are filling up fast. The Convention committee met and after much discussion decided to go back to the Holiday Inn next year. We took a vote and it was 6-1 in favor of the Holiday Inn. However, we plan to meet quarterly and consider other options for future years. Our next District meeting will be Oct. 4 at the Armory on Broadway in NE Minneapolis.

Ray Eiden
5th District Commander

Our next District meeting will be on October 6th at the NE Armory in Mpls sponsored by Falldin Post. Executive committee meets at 6:45PM and Assembly meeting at 7:30. Please bring all your membership as we need to grow our membership base in the Twin Cities. Represent your post and bring information back to all your members to make the American Legion a center in our community

As part of The American Legion' upcoming 100th Anniversary Celebration, being held in Minneapolis, 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.

Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435 will conduct a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Saturday September 17th 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.

The Medal of Honor Convention in 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 5th 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.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will host the National Veterans Small Business Engagement in collaboration with federal agencies and commercial partners. NVSBE is the VA's largest nationwide annual event designed to assist Veteran Owned Small Businesses and Service Disabled Veteran owned Businesses maximize opportunities in the Federal and commercial marketplace and successfully compete for and win small business contracts. For more information about the "Engagement," go to www.nvsbe16.com. The Department of Veterans affairs needs assistance for each day of the event: Sunday 10/30, Monday, 10/31, Tuesday 11/1, Wednesday, 11/2 and Thursday 11/3. Volunteers will receive lunch, light refreshments throughout the event days and a polo shirt. If interested please Valeria Alfaro at 443-325-5020.

As the 2016-17 school year dawns, American Legion post members are encouraged to visit their local schools and promote the Legion's School Award Medal Program. Youth are often awarded for their scholastic achievements, but the American Legion believes they should also be praised when they demonstrate strong qualities of character and good citizenship. That's why, since 1926, the Legion has recognized such students with its school award medal program to instill character and helps perpetuate ideals of Americanism among youth. The award is given to a boy and a girl in the graduating classes of elementary school, junior and senior high school and college. Those who receive a medal must exemplify six

qualities that define character; courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service. Candidates for the award are voted upon by a school's faculty and members of the candidates' graduating class through a secret ballot. The local Legion post involved with the school makes the final selection upon receiving recommendations from students and faculty. Download the American Legion School Award Medal Program brochure at www.legionorg/publications under Americanism.

Around the District:

October 2, Hospital Visitation at VAMC @ 2:00PM
October 6, District Assembly at N.E Armory at 7:30PM
October 9, Mpls-Richfield Post 435 Chili Cook-Off (see Jim Morris [612-718-8649](tel:612-718-8649))
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 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