

5th District

Department of Minnesota

E-Flash

April, 2017

A Special Message from the National Commander

Thank you for your continued efforts with the 2017 membership campaign. As we move from the 85% target date to the 90% target date, I've noticed we are starting to lose pace. This is the first target date for 2017 where we did not achieve our National Target Date goal. Remember, this is the time of year when the extra push needs to happen if we're going to achieve 100%

The March renewal notice has been sent. We need to double-up and triple-up the message to these unrenewed members. This is a great time for your leadership to reach out with a personal contact!

Thanks for all your efforts, and good luck

Charles E. Schmidt

FROM COMMANDER RAY EIDEN

We are still in 10th place according to the Membership Report dated Mar. 22, 2017. We are at 87.68% of goal and our next target date is April 12th when we should be at 95% of goal. There is one final renewal notice going out on April 27th. Last year we finished at 92.96% of goal. Let's see if we can't beat that this year. Let's reach that 95% of goal. As of March 26th nationally we are in first place ahead of Wisconsin. Let's do our part to keep it that way. We have \$1435 so far for our District Project. The cost of the clarinova is \$2000 so we have another \$565 to raise. Our next fundraiser will be April 2nd at Wold-Chamberlain. It will be another pancake and sausage breakfast on April 2nd from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We can always use more help. Contact either Joe Bayer or myself. Any donations from Posts are welcome. Our next Hospital Visitation is also on April 2nd at 2:00 p.m. Let Becky Nelson know if you are going to the Testimonial Dinner by April 8th. Remember to get your nominations in to the nominating committee if you wish to run for office. You can contact Jim Munson or me. The next District Assembly is April 4th at Richfield.

Attached please find a nomination form for The American Legion National Leadership College which will be held October 29 thru November 3, 2017. Minnesota will nominate one Legionnaire to attend the National College. Candidates should fall within the Lebanon/Grenade, Panama, or Gulf War/War on Terror war eras. Acceptance of candidates from earlier eras may be limited by the availability of

seats. Deadline in July 1, 2017. Candidates must also complete the American Legion Extension Institute prior to submitting application

The 5th District Testimonial Dinner will be held on April 15th at Post 1. Social hour is 5:00 PM with dinner at 6:00 PM and the program to follow. Beef Post Roast will be served. Cost is \$16.00. Contact Becky Nelson if you wish to go. You can email her or call her at [612-722-8861](tel:612-722-8861).

SAL Membership Director Cliff Teigland: I want to give big congratulations to the 5th District SAL for being the first to 105%.

The Minnesota Historical Society has a new exhibit called WW1 America. It presents stories from a turbulent nation – 100 years ago. It explores America 100 year ago – from the major movements like immigration, women's right to vote, racial politics, the Great Migration and Prohibition to daily life and popular cultures during the war. See over 100 original artifacts, Listen to stories from soldiers and nurses, and discover stories of the legendary and unsung Americans. The event is from April 8 to September 4, 2017

Vietnam Memorial Wall Website: [Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall – The Virtual Wall](#)

Be prepared for a very moving experience...you can see their faces and remember their stories...First click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear. Then click on their names. It should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.

There will be pancake and sausage breakfast district fundraiser at Wold- Chamberlain Post 99 on April 2nd from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. All proceeds go to 5th District Project at the Minnesota Veterans Home.

Legion Day at Twins:

The annual Legion Family Day at the Minnesota Twins will be Friday, May 19, at 7:10 PM at Target Field. The game will feature the Twins vs Kansas City Royals. Tickets are \$23.00 in the Home Plate View section. All posts at the game will have their name on the scoreboard.

To get tickets, call 1-800-33-Twins and hit the 0 to speak to an attendant. At the start of the call, reference the special American Legion promotion. Credit cards are acceptable with a \$5.00 service charge for each order. Tickets will be mailed.

Program Reminders:

April is Children and Youth Month. Be sure to coordinate this with the Auxiliary. Secure Children and Youth Guide from department headquarters. Plan summer scouting activities. Boys State should be given priority. How about an "Old Timers" night? Community service will elevate your post's standing in the community. Plans should be made for election of new officers. Support the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation week.

5th District American Legion "Legionnaire of the Year" nominations are due this month. Contact those on the committee: Jim Munson; Wayne Glanton, Gary Martin or Merv Becker.

Consolidated Post Report have been mailed to the Posts and are also on the internet. Please review, fill out all information your post has done and either submit on internet or mail to Department. This a important report to use at Department and National level and it is also a good measurement as to your Activities in the American Legion

Upcoming events

- April 2 Hospitalization at VMCA.
- April 2 5th District Fund Raiser (breakfast) at Wold-Chamberlain Post 99
- April 4 5th District Assembly @ Minneapolis –Richfield Post 435
- April 9 Omelet Breakfast at Mpls Post 1
- April 15 5th District Commander Testimonial @ Mpls Post 1
- April 16 No Omelet Breakfast until Oct at Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435
- April 23 Pancake Breakfast @ Wold-Chamberlain Post 99

Thanks for all you do to help our veterans and their families, serving our Community, State, and Nation

Ray Eiden

Jim Munson

Commander

Adjutant