



# The American Legion, Department of Minnesota, 5th District Family FLASH

January 2025

**AMERICAN LEGION**

### **Fifth District Officers**

**Commander**  
Lynne Nottage

**Adjutant**  
Ray Eiden

**Finance**  
Dennis Delong

**Chaplain**  
Andrew Rose Sr.

**Sergeant-At-Arms**  
Joe Bayer

*Hope you have  
a great holiday Season  
Happy New Year  
from your District Leadership*

**No Fifth District American Legion Meeting  
For The Month of January!**

**Please plan on attending the Midwinter on Saturday January 11  
and the District Social on January 12.**



## **Passing of Past SAL Detachment and District Commander Bill Peters**

Past Detachment Commander and Past SAL Fifth District Commander William "Bill" Harold Peters passed away on December 14th. He was 77.

Born on March 8, 1947, Bill epitomized the phrase "Minnesota Nice"—a kind, fun-loving, and generous soul who brightened the lives of everyone he met. His warmth and humor were as steadfast as his love for family, friends, and his Minnesota roots.

Bill graduated from the University of Minnesota, a milestone that sparked a lifelong pride in his home state. He went on to build a successful career as a Human Resources executive, retiring from two renowned companies, Unisys and AT&T. Known for his leadership, professionalism, and genuine care for others, Bill made a lasting impact on his colleagues and workplace communities. He was also a diehard fan of Minnesota sports, cheering for his teams with unwavering loyalty no matter the season. His zest for life extended to his hobbies, which included golf, playing the guitar, the organ, and singing—pursuits that reflected his playful spirit and love of bringing joy to others.

Bill was SAL Fifth District Commander in 2004 - 2007 and Detachment Commander in 2009 - 2011. He held numerous other positions at the Squadron, District, and Detachment levels.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to Sons of The American Legion ([legion.org](http://legion.org)) in his honor.

<https://everloved.com/life-of/william-harold-peters/obituary/>

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# Fifth District American Legion Auxiliary Meeting

No Meeting in January.

Hope to see you at the Joint 4th and 5th District Midwinter on January 11th and the District Social on January 12. Please RSVP for both.

## Fifth District Officers

### President

Cari Lamb

### 1st Vice President

Jill Davis

### 2nd Vice President

Deb Bayer

### Secretary

Julie Martin

### Treasurer

Becky Nelson

### Chaplain

Mary Younkin



## Fifth District Officers

### Commander

Matt Verkuilen

### 1st Vice Commander

Robert Bristo

### 2nd Vice Commander

Bill Hawkins

### Adjutant

Shawn Davis

### Finance

Leroy Gonzales

### Chaplain

Pat Kiehl

### SAA

Lee Davis

SAVE PAPER.  
SAVE POSTAGE.  
SAVE TIME.



QUICKLY AND EASILY RENEW ONLINE  
**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**



Our next meeting will be Saturday January 4th at 9 AM via Zoom.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88337661080?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88337661080?pwd=ZitP9LSpcg7lvthXdOxd5ioIW2IEE4.1)

[pwd=ZitP9LSpcg7lvthXdOxd5ioIW2IEE4.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88337661080?pwd=ZitP9LSpcg7lvthXdOxd5ioIW2IEE4.1)



## District Representative

Jill Davis



Time for  
4th & 5th District Legion Family

# **MID-YEAR** *Conference*

**This years conference will be training oriented for all members of the 4th & 5th District Legion Family.**

**January 11, 2025  
8:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m.  
Arcade Phalen Post 577  
1129 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN**

**Registration - \$20.00 before  
January 5th**

**Registration - \$25.00 after  
January 6th**

**Information about the conference can be found on the 4th District Website  
[www.fourthdistrictamericanlegionmn.com/](http://www.fourthdistrictamericanlegionmn.com/)  
under the "Events' tab**

Please RSVP as soon as you can to confirm your attendance.

FIFTH DISTRICT  
AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

**HOLIDAY**  
*Party*

SPONSORED BY THE 5TH DISTRICT  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

January 12, 2025  
2 PM - 5PM

Charles Knaeble  
VFW #494  
5222 Bass Lake Road  
Crystal MN 55429

COST: \$15 PER PERSON    RSVP BY JANUARY 1  
DINNER - FELLOWSHIP - MUSIC - PRIZES  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

RSVP BY CALLING (612) 356-2554  
OR BY EMAIL: [MNFIGHTINGFIFTHAMERICANLEGION@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MNFIGHTINGFIFTHAMERICANLEGION@GMAIL.COM)

# The American Legion Fifth District Membership By Gary Martin

## Membership Target Dates

October 16, 2024 - 55%	November 14th, 2024 - 65%
December 11, 2024 - 75%	January 15th, 2025 - 80%
February 12th, 2025 - 85%	March 12th, 2025 - 90%
April 9th, 2025 - 95%	May 14th, 2025 - 100%

### MN Dist 0005 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
MN-0001	Minneapolis	Minneapolis	2	17	141	2	162	204	79.41
MN-0099	Wold-Chamberlain	Minneapolis	3	16	41	0	60	80	75.00
MN-0129	The Hellenic Inc	Minneapolis	0	10	36	0	46	53	86.79
MN-0230	North Side	Minneapolis	1	4	21	0	26	41	63.41
MN-0234	Vincent L Giantvalley	Minneapolis	0	6	16	0	22	38	57.89
MN-0291	Johnnie Baker	Minneapolis	0	3	12	0	15	25	60.00
MN-0355	Bainbridge	Minneapolis	0	3	0	0	3	3	100.00
MN-0435	Minneapolis-Richfield	Richfield	4	96	374	3	477	724	65.88
MN-0440	Gopher	Minneapolis	0	9	22	0	31	29	106.90
MN-0493	Viking Inc	Minneapolis	1	1	44	0	46	55	83.64
MN-0504	Bearcat Incorporated	Minneapolis	0	8	0	0	8		
MN-0511	Aviation	Crystal	0	12	19	0	31	50	62.00
MN-0548	University Of Minnesota	Minneapolis	0	13	6	0	19	38	50.00
MN-0555	Arthur And Leonard Falk	Minneapolis	0	26	39	0	65	90	72.22
MN-0581	Herb Gager	Minneapolis	3	2	7	0	12	29	41.38
MN-0618	Longton	Minneapolis	0	22	0	0	22	22	100.00
SUM:			14	248	778	5	1,045	1,481	70.56

## Fifth District Minneapolis VA Hospital Visitation

All are welcome to join in visiting our veterans who could use a visit at the VA.

On the first Sunday of the month (January 5th) assemble at 1:45 PM at the Minneapolis VA Auditorium. Please bring your cover, or where something Legion Family related.



# The American Legion Auxiliary Fifth District Membership

## By Jill Davis

This membership report is as of December 9th, 2024.

Dist	Unit	Unit Location	2025 DNO	Goal Dates Set By National				Junior	Senior	Total	Percent to Date	100%+ Date
				85% by 3/15/25	95% by 5/23/25	100% by 7/4/25	102% by 7/26/25					
05	0001	Minneapolis	65	55	62	65	66	5	31	36	55.38%	
05	0099	Minneapolis	44	37	42	44	45	0	23	23	52.27%	
05	0129	Minneapolis	69	59	66	69	70	0	41	41	59.42%	
05	0234	Minneapolis	54	46	51	54	55	0	33	33	61.11%	
05	0435	Richfield	181	154	172	181	185	0	87	87	48.07%	
05	0440	Minneapolis	32	27	30	32	33	0	15	15	46.88%	
05	0511	Minneapolis	18	15	17	18	18	0	3	3	16.67%	
<b>05 Total</b>			<b>463</b>					<b>5</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>51.40%</b>	

December 7, 2024 Pearl Harbor Rally at Spicer Post 545 Dept. goal of 75%

February 8, 2025 Sweetheart Rally at Royalton Post 137 Dept. goal of 80%

March 8, 2025 Appreciation Rally at TBA Dept goal of 85%



Can you cut paper? Can you twist wire? Can you separate crepe paper? If so, you have the basic skills for the assembling of American Legion poppies. The Department of Minnesota American Legion Auxiliary is working extremely hard with American Legion family to make poppies to fulfill the statewide demand. Veterans have traditionally made poppies in the state and been paid ten cents per poppy. However, the number of veterans doing this task has decreased and with it the number of poppies being produced each year. The Auxiliary both in Minnesota and nation wide are struggling to keep up with the demand. What is the solution? We need to recruit more poppy makers. Anyone can make poppies as a volunteer. Only veterans are eligible to receive compensation for making poppies.

At the Fall Conference for two hours there was a mass effort from the American Legion Family to make as many poppies as possible. Districts were paired up with there traditional sister districts as teams. Several district teams had multiple tables of people working on poppies. The 4th and 5th districts combined into one table to make poppies. For the number of people who were working on the project, we were very productive – we made over 300 poppies in two hours. In total the Minnesota American Legion Family made 3729 poppies in two hours.

If you are interested in learning more about making poppies, please let me know. I have poppy making supplies and would be willing to show anyone how to make poppies. Once I got the hang of the process, I found that I can watch tv and make poppies at the same time. Both are relaxing tasks to do during the cold winter months that will eventually come our way. I can be reached at alajilldavis@gmail.com or phone/text at 612-968-1172.

# The Sons of The American Legion Fifth District Membership By Robert Bristo

This membership report is as of 12/29/2024.

5th District								
Sqdrn.	Location	2024 Results (7/31/2024)	2025 Goal	Total at Dept		Grand Total	% of Goal	Date Goal Reached
1	Minneapolis	41	43	28	0	28	65.12%	
99	Wold-Chamberlain	22	24	6	0	6	25.00%	
129	Hellenic	23	25	20	0	20	80.00%	
234	GiantValley	30	32	1	0	1	3.13%	
355	Bainbridge	0	1A	0	0	0	#VALUE!	
435	Richfield	174	176	91	0	91	51.70%	
440	Gopher	43	45	41	0	41	91.11%	
511	Aviation	5	7	1	0	1	14.29%	
555	Falldin	11	13	11	0	11	84.62%	
<b>5th District Totals</b>		<b>349</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>54.52%</b>	

DETACHMENT OF MINNESOTA					
2025 MEMBERSHIP GOALS					
Report Date:		12/29/24			
2024 Results as of 7/31/2024	11448				
<b>Current Received as of 12/29/2024</b>	<b>7136</b>	<b>59.92%</b>	<b>*Includes traditional and online renewals</b>		
2025 Detachment Goal	11910	0	#DIV/0! set from national		
Vice Commanders	2024 Results	2025 Goal	Current at Dept.	Percentage	Placing
1st and 3rd	3847	3992	2571	64.40%	1
2nd and 7th	2215	2323	1260	54.24%	5
4th and 5th	759	787	467	59.34%	3
6th and 9th	2510	2608	1640	62.88%	2
8th and 10th	2126	2208	1198	54.26%	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11457</b>	<b>11918</b>	<b>7136</b>	<b>59.88%</b>	
<i>*The above goals are set by the District Leadership</i>					
Districts	2024 Results	2025 Goal	Current at Dept.	Percentage	Placing
1st District	1670	1743	1050	60.24%	5
2nd District	1313	1385	773	55.81%	7
3rd District	2177	2249	1521	67.63%	2
4th District	410	422	268	63.51%	3
5th District	349	365	199	54.52%	8
6th District	1631	1693	1021	60.31%	4
7th District	902	938	487	51.92%	9
8th District	489	509	229	44.99%	10
9th District	879	915	619	67.65%	1
10th District	1637	1699	969	57.03%	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11457</b>	<b>11918</b>	<b>7136</b>	<b>59.88%</b>	
<i>*The above goals are set by the District Leadership</i>					
<b>1982 MN SAL AT-LARGE</b>	<b>2</b>				
4th District 1st off the Goose Egg!					
5th District 2nd off the Goose Egg!					
8th District 3rd off the Goose Egg!					
14 Squadrons stuck @ 1 Renewal					
21 Still @ 0 Renewals					

2025 Original Goal	Percentage	Ranking
3992	64.40%	1
2315	54.43%	4
787	59.34%	3
2608	62.88%	2
2208	54.26%	5
<i>*The above goal set by the Detachment Membership Director</i>		
2025 Original Goal	Percentage	Ranking
1743	60.24%	5
1377	56.14%	7
2249	67.63%	2
422	63.51%	3
365	54.52%	8
1693	60.31%	4
938	51.92%	9
509	45.01%	10
915	67.65%	1
1699	57.03%	6
<i>*The above goal set by the Detachment Membership Director</i>		



## **Unit 435 Omelet Breakfast Fundraiser**

**Sunday January 12th  
8 AM until Noon**

**\$13.00** good will donation  
for a custom made omelet,  
hash-browns, toast, fruit cocktail, and drink  
(coffee, juice, or milk)

**Wold Chamberlain  
American Legion Post 99  
5600 S 34th Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55417**

Celebrating  
National Blood  
Donor Month



## Hellenic Sons Squadron 129, Sons of the American Legion Blood Drive

Saturday, January 25  
8:00AM - 1:00PM

Location: St. Mary's Greek  
Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55408

Scan the QR code to sign-up  
or call MBC at 888.448.3253.



888.GIVE.BLD • [mbc.org](http://mbc.org)

### Prepare to donate

-  Eat well and hydrate
-  Bring a photo ID
-  Feel good and symptom free
-  Must be 17+ or 16 with parental consent form
-  Meet minimum weight requirements
-  Save time! Answer your health history at [mbc.org/iDonate](http://mbc.org/iDonate)

For full eligibility requirements and COVID-19 information, visit [mbc.org/eligibility](http://mbc.org/eligibility).



# *Wold Chamberlain American Legion Post 99 Family Fundraiser*



## **Pancake & Sausage Breakfast Fundraiser**

**NO PANCAKE FUNDRAISER IN  
DECEMBER!**

**Sunday, January 26, 2025**

8:00 am to Noon

Wold Chamberlain

American Legion Post #99

5600 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55417

\$10.00 donation for adults

\$5.00 for children under 10 years of age

Eggs & Extra Sausage \$1.00 each



Date	What	Location
Saturday, January 4, 2025 9 AM	Fifth District Meeting SAL	
Sunday, January 5, 1:45 PM	5th District Minneapolis VA Hospital Visitation	Minneapolis VA Auditorium
Saturday, January 11, 2025	Fourth & Fifth District Midwinter Learning Event	Arcade-Phalen American Legion Post 577, 1129 Arcade St. St. Paul
Sunday, January 12, 2025 8 Am until Noon	Unit 435 Omelet Breakfast Fundraiser	Wold Chamberlain Post 99 5600 S 34th Ave. Mpls
Sunday, January 12, 2025 2 PM until 5 PM	Fifth District Holiday Social	Crystal VFW Post 494 5222 Bass Lake Road, Crystal
Saturday, January 25, 2025 8 AM until 1 PM	Hellenic Squad 129 Blood Drive	St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church 3450 Irving Ave S. Mpls
Saturday, January 25, 2025 11 AM until 4 PM	2025 King Boreas Grande Day Parade	Arcade-Phalen American Legion Post 577, 1129 Arcade St. St. Paul
Sunday, January 26, 2025 8 AM until Noon	Post 99 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser	Wold Chamberlain Post 99 5600 S 34th Ave. Mpls
Saturday, February 1, 2025 9:30 Exec, 10 AM Membership	Fifth District Meeting TAL, ALA	Minneapolis Post 1 2507 E 25th St. Mpls, MN 55406
Sunday, February 2, 1:45 PM	5th District Minneapolis VA Hospital Visitation	Minneapolis VA Auditorium
Saturday, February 8, 11 AM	Sweetheart Rally	Royalton American Legion 103 N Maple St. Royalton
Saturday, February 22, 2025	Department Oratorical	

Send in content that should be shared to  
[news@mnfightingfifth.org](mailto:news@mnfightingfifth.org)



Please have content sent to us by the 15th of each month. The plan will be to get the Fifth District Flash out 1 week prior to the next District Meeting.

Visit our website at [www.mnfightingfifth.org](http://www.mnfightingfifth.org)

Find us on  
 Facebook [www.facebook.com/MNFifthDistrict](http://www.facebook.com/MNFifthDistrict)

Please print and share this newsletter with members and anyone interested who is not online.