

**Reports of
The Fifth District American Legion
for 2022 – 2023**



Program	Name/Post
American Education Week	Andrew Rose Post 291
American Legion Baseball	Kyle Nutting Post 435
American Legion Riders	Joe Starr Squad 435
Americanism	Dick Tetzlaff Post 230
Armed Forces Center	Ted Hoeben Post 511
Asst. Veteran Service Officer	Lynn Lyons Post 435
Blood Program	Ray Eiden Post 555
Boy Scouts	Andru Peters Post 1
Boys State	Matthew Verkuilen Squad 511
Children and Youth	Andrew Rose Post 291
E-Flash	Shawn/Ray Post 555
Employment	Dennis DeLong Post 435
Energy and Conservation	Wade Larson Post 440
Finance	Dennis DeLong Post 435
Hospital Visitation	Ray Eiden Post 555
Junior Shooting	Tim Cagney Post 435
Law and Order	Wade Larson Post 440
Legionville	Dennis DeLong Post 435
Legislation	Milt Schoen Post 1
Media/Communication s (Co-Chair)	Shawn Davis Squad 435
Media/Communication s (Co-Chair)	Matthew Verkuilen Squad 511
Membership Director	Gary/Wade Post 440
Memorial Day Mpls Vet's Home	Joe/Don Post 99
National Security	Curt Norenberg
Oratorical Contest	Dick Ward
Public Relations	Joe Bayer
Rehabilitations	Wade Larson
SAL	Jim Munson
Constitution and By-laws Committee	

Convention and Conference Committee
Convention Credentials
Ethics Committee
Finance Committee
Long Range Planning and Post Development Committee
Nominations Committee
Public Relations Committee
Resolutions Committee
Awards and Fifth District Legionnaire of the Year award Committee

American Legion Riders

The American Legion Riders is one piece of the American Legion Family that can help your family membership grow. Please ask if you would like help forming a Chapter.

Our next event is the Minnesota American Legion Rider Legacy Run. Kickoff party on Wednesday, July 26 at North Branch American Legion. The ride kicks off from there on Thursday, July 27th, and makes its way through Northern Minnesota, finishing at the Spicer American Legion on Sunday, July 30th.

Then on August 19th, the Department Fund 85 Run, or the Veterans Assistance Run will be held beginning and ending at the Forest Lake American Legion.

Joe Starr
District Representative

Boy Scouts

- Received notice on 11/2/2022 from Jennifer Kelley, Department, announcing upcoming Eagle Scout Scholarship meeting on 3/4/23.
- Call for meeting issued 2/21/23 for a Scout meeting. Committee is made up of
 - [1] Chip Manson, Chairman, Sunburg
 - [2] Peter Larson, Eyota
 - [3] Tom Hallet, Mankato
 - [4] George Thoma, Red Wing
 - [5] John Weiss, Newport
 - [6] Andru Peters, Lake City
 - [7] David Doubrava, Sauk Centre

- [8] Larry Pocrnich, Hibbing
- [9] Gary Olson, Moorhead
- [10] Bill Frederick, Brooklyn Park

- Did not attend the March 4 Committee meeting, because of a District #5 meeting at the same time.
- Meeting Summary Report included:
 - [1] Eagle Scout of the Year (Fund 56) Scholarship fund set at \$2,000
 - [2] Boy Scout Council assistance (Fund 81) committee Approved \$1,000 donations to the State councils: Northern Star-BSA; Voyageurs-BSA; Gamehaven-BSA; Northern Lights-BSA & Twin Valley-BSA.
 - [3] Legion Posts holding Gambling Licenses can use those funds for Fund 56 & 81 programs.
 - [4] Discussion regarding the religious badge for scouting was verified and this counts for the Eagle Scout of the year.
- **NOTE:** Did mention this to Hellenic Post #129 to consider if they were to form a Boy Scout troop

Andru Peters
Fifth District Boy Scouts Chair

Boys State Report

The 74th session of Minnesota Boys State is scheduled for June 11-17, 2023, and will be held at St. John's University. As of May 18th, 217 delegates will be attending from around the state with two being sponsored from the Fifth District specifically (Richfield 435 specifically). Two main challenges are still in play, that is getting timely information to the instructors and schools and getting responses back from the instructors and schools about possible candidates to sponsor. The hope moving forward is that as a district we can coordinate efforts and approach this as a district project (with posts still sponsoring where they can) as well as an effort to include Girls State in the mix in order to have a more efficient recruitment effort.

Matthew Verkuilen,
5th District Boys State Chairman

Blood Donation Report For 2022

We had nine Posts respond to the blood donation request.
There were four Posts that reported donations.
There were 10 members of the Legion, Auxiliary, SAL donating a total of 22 pints.

Minneapolis Post 1

Members donated - 5
Total Units donated - 12

Northside Post #230

Members donated – 2
Total Units donated -5

Gopher Post #440

Members donated - 2
Total Units donated – 4

Viking Post #493

Members donated – 1
Total Unita donated – 1

Five Posts reported no donations. They were Falldin, Hellenic, Richfield, Aviation and Wold-Chamberlain..

I would like to thank those from the four Posts who donated blood. This is one way to serve the community. There is always a demand for blood and it helps those in need.

Ray Eiden
Fifth District Blood Chairman

Convention and Conference Committee

Even though the District Convention got moved to a different location, it has been a pleasure working with the Holiday Inn/Empire Hotels Coordinator who helped us to move our event to a different facility (even if it is not in her company or chain) and paying the difference in costs related to the move.

Thank you, Mary Ann and Empire Hotels Group for your support.

We hope you enjoy the Convention!

e-Flash and Fifth District Flash

The e-Flash is an electronic means of communication allowing people to sign up for communications from our District. This allows members the control of the communication, and what email it goes to. It gives the district some way of measuring who is getting and interacting with our communications.

This year we also brought back the Fifth District Flash. Due to costs, we are not mailing it out, but using the e-Flash to send a printable copy out, that can then be printed by members and shared with those who do not have email.

The biggest challenge is to make sure individual members, who have been subscribed to this mail list, check their inbox or spam email box for these communications. If need be, members should search for news@mnfightingfifth.org and see if they are getting communications. They can then tell their email service that content from that email address is not spam and should appear in the regular email inbox.

One challenge we will likely face in the future is we have a limited number of sends based on our free subscription to the software we use. If we grow our mailing list, consideration may have to be made to switch to a different service or pay for a license.

Thank you for allowing us to support the Fifth District in this role.

Ray Eident

Co-Chairs

Shawn Davis

Media and Communications

We have a presence on the web at www.mnfightingfifth.org. Current information on the District is kept here, along with documents, and photos. We could use more information and activities from the District Family so that this site can be a resource for everything Fifth District.

We also have a Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/MNFifthDistrict.

Submissions of content for any of our media assets are welcome, and if you have any ideas, please ask and discuss with us on how we can help.

Shawn Davis

Co-Chairs

Matt Verkuilen

ORATORICAL CONTEST 2022 – 2023

Chairman's Report

Our Oratorical Contest was greeted with gentle weather for Mid-January in Minnesota.

David Vickers, sponsored by Falldin Post 555, was determined to be this year's 5th District Champion. David will represent the 5th District in the state semi-finals to be held February 25, 2023, at the Osseo and Anoka American Legion Posts in the morning. The Finals will be held in the afternoon at the Anoka American Legion Edward B Cutter Post #102.

David attends Vickers Home Academy in Minneapolis. As an underclassman, we expect to see David compete again. We are very proud of David for representing the 5th District at the Department finals in February.

Sponsoring post, Falldin Post 555, was represented by 5th District Adjutant Ray Eiden. Awards were presented to David by 5th District Vice Commanders, Andru Peters and Wade Larson.

A big THANK YOU goes out to all who worked this year's contest this January morning:

Judges: Curt Norenberg, Jim Munson, Ray Eiden

Timekeepers: Shawn Davis & Jill Davis

Tabulator: Mike Wybierala

Sgt-At-Arms: Don Gustafson

Hosting Facility: Wold-Chamberlain Post 99, Roger & Bonnie Fahrenkrug.

Thank you,

Dick Ward

5th District Oratorical Chairman

Upcoming events

Event	Dates	Location
SAL Detachment Convention	Friday June 23rd and Saturday June 24th	Anoka American Legion
Joint 4th & 5th District Picnic?	Date?	Veterans Campground on Big Marine Lake
Boys and Girls State	June 11 - 17, 2023	Boys State - St. Johns University Girls State - Bethel University
Department Convention	Thursday July 13 through Saturday July 15th	Jackpot Junction
MN ALR Legacy Run	Kick Off Party Wednesday July 26 Run begins Thursday July	North Branch American Legion Spicer American Legion
MN American Legion Auxiliary Junior Fun Weekend	Friday, August 4th through Sunday morning August 6th	Legionville Education Camp
Fund 85 Run - Veterans Assistance Fund Ride	Saturday, August 19th	Forest Lake American Legion
National Convention	Friday August 25th through Thursday August 31st	Charlotte, NC
Camp-O-Ree	Thursday, September 7 through Sunday September 10th	Legionville Education Center