



The 2nd District American Legion Family Newsletter

August, 2019

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Brad Pagel

Email: bppagel@gmail.com

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**** Newsletter News ****

The newsletter email is

district2mnlegionfamilynews@gmail.com

Please submit all articles/pictures/posters etc. you wish to have published in the newsletter before the 22nd of the prior month.

To help the District cut down on expenses and time it takes with the mailings of the newsletter, it was decided at convention time to go all electronic for the newsletter. Please encourage someone from each Post, Unit, Squadron and Chapter to receive the newsletter via email and print it out for their meetings. It will also be available on the district website at www.mnlegion2nndistrict.com on the newsletter page.

Upcoming Events

Aug 23-29 2019 National Convention Indianapolis IN

Sept 7 Dept Harvest Rally Legionville

Oct 19 District Rally- Auxiliary in charge location TBD

Oct 25-26 Dept Fall Conference Mahnommen MN

Nov 23 District Rally TBD

Dec 7 Dept Pearl Harbor Rally Rosetown

Dec 14 or 15 District Christmas Party TBD

Jan 10-11 District Mid-winter Conference TBD

Feb 8 Dept Sweetheart Rally

Feb 29 District Rally Slayton

May 9 District testimonials

June 5-6 District Convention TBD

2nd District Commander Column



2nd District Commander Brad Pagel

Greetings to the 2nd District, Allow me to introduce myself as your new District Commander, Brad Pagel Post 64 Slayton. There are a lot of things we can do to stop the slide of membership, talk to our younger veterans and their family's. Establish that connection with them, explain the benefits of being a member of the American Legion Family. One focus is technology, we must play catch up to the younger generation if we want them to join the Legion Family. Most of our younger veterans don't read newspapers, they are more likely to use technology to find out information. Social media platforms is where the most benefit of information for your post happenings is going to be. If you don't have a facebook page for your post, start one put everything your post, unit, squadron, riders chapter is doing on there. The more we catch up on social media the more attention we will bring to the American Legion Family for your posts. The more active we are in the communities that we are in the more the younger veterans see that and will starting asking the questions. Carry membership applications with you for the entire American Legion Family, as you never know who or when you will gain a member or 2 or 3. Know what your post family dues are, as that is the first question that is asked. Invite them to meetings and functions that the post is doing, let them see first hand the comradery of the post family. Visibility is the number one goal in the community, if you're not visible, if no one knows you are there, ask yourself how are the younger veterans going to find us? Get out there make yourself visible, become more active, educate yourself on the programs that the American Legion offers, and the potential scholarship moneys that are available in the programs.

Chaplain Notes

God bless our troops and keep them safe. God bless America. God bless everyone.
Chaplain Denny

Auxiliary President News

Hi please allow me to introduce myself to you.

My name is Robin Olson and I have been a member of the American legion Auxiliary for 4 years and I belong to Winnebago Unit 82. I am eligible threw my husband Past 2nd District Commander Randy Olson, and 30 year veteran of the U.S. Army.

I was elected your 2nd District President at Convention in Pipestone in June and began my duties in July after change over that was held in Okabeena.

We do not have any dates set up yet but will get them out as soon as possible. And the directory is in the works.

The Commander Brad Pagel, SAL Commander Russ Lietzke, and I are doing a project together. We have decided to do the Eagle's Healing Nest in Redwood Falls. My theme is spreading our wings for our veterans. And my symbol is an Eagle.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Hope you all have a great year. And I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can.

Here is my email address and phone number,
rrde72@gmail.com
507-525-3790

American Legion Riders

The American Legion State Legacy Run has started, the first weekend there has been over 60,000 dollars turned in, putting Minnesota over the threshold of 1 Million Dollars turned in to the Legacy Scholarship program. Minnesota is the FIRST and ONLY state to reach this milestone. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO HAVE MADE THIS POSSIBLE!! WE HAVE THE BRAGGING RIGHTS!!

Mark the Dates

Adrian SAL pancake breakfast last Sunday every month. 9-1

Bricelyn Post SAL steak fry 3rd Saturday every month.

Keister Post steak fry 4th Saturday every month.

Madelia Steak Fry 3rd Saturday every month 5-730pm

Any post events please send them in to get in newsletters.

BASEBALL REPORT

Hold the presses! Commander Brad has delayed printing the August Newsletter, allowing me to post the results of the sub-state tournaments. There are two posts that can be very proud of their baseball programs. In Division 2 Jr. Legion, Luverne defeated Russell-Tyler-Ruthton to advance to the State Tournament in St. Charles August 9-11. In Division 2

**Sr. Legion, Luverne qualified for the State Tournament in Ely August 2-4 by beating Springfield. In Division 1 Sr. Legion, New Ulm Gold bested Mankato American and will play in the State Tournament in Cold Spring August 1-4. And in Division 1 Jr. Legion, New Ulm Jr. Legion Gold outdid Marshall and will move on to the State Tournament in Bloomington August 1-4. Congratulations to Luverne American Legion Post 123 and VFW Post Vern Kitzberger
2nd District Baseball Director**

People can also send stamped envelopes and postcards without addresses for postmark, as long as they supply a larger envelope with adequate postage and their return address. After applying the pictorial postmark, the Postal Service returns the items (with or without addresses) under addressed protective cover.

Attention Unit Presidents and Treasurers:

As per 2nd District Standing Rules D:2.

a. District Dues: Units shall pay District Dues annually in the amount of \$1.75 per member, base upon their last year's total membership. The first billing of the District membership dues will be published in the September issue of the 2nd District American Legion Family Newsletter.

In September the United States Postal Service will be issuing a pictorial postmark to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Tyler Legion Post 185. The pictorial postmark was designed by Tyler Tribute graphic designer Amber Casperson. Tyler Postmaster Dawn Wichern submitted the application for the postmark on request of Tyler Legion Post 185. The Tyler Post Office will be a temporary station for the use of the postmark. The postmark is only valid beginning Sept. 16th to the end of the month. To have your mail hand canceled with this commemorative pictorial postmark go to the Tyler Post Office during regular postal hours from Sept. 16th – Sept. 30th and request the use of this postmark.

Checks should be made out to:

**2nd District American Legion Auxiliary
and mailed to:
2nd District Treasurer
Vida Bacon
110 N Payne St
New Ulm MN 56073**

Those who cannot go to the Tyler Post Office but wish to have their mail hand canceled with this historic postmark may submit a mail order request. All requests must include a stamped envelope or postcard bearing at least the minimum First-Class Mail postage. Items submitted for postmark may not include postage issued after the date of the requested postmark. Such items will be returned unserved.

People wishing to obtain a postmark must affix stamps to any envelope or postcard of their choice, address the envelope or postcard to themselves or others, insert a card of postcard thickness in envelopes for sturdiness, and tuck in the flap. Place the envelope or postcard in a larger envelope and address it to: Pictorial Postmarks, followed by the Name of the Station, Address, City, State, ZIP Code, as listed next to the postmark.



Mr. Bill Holling was the Parade Marshall for the Hardwick Jubilee Days in June. Mr. Holling, WWII Veteran is the oldest member of the Hardwick Arthur Moeller Post #478 and celebrated his 96th birthday this year.

ATTENTION: ALL VETERANS

GREAT NEWS:

President Trump signed into law the LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service). The new Law changes The American Legion's eligibility dates to now be open to all those who served during WWI and all veterans since Dec 7th 1941 with at least one day of honorable federal service.

Minnesota's own Past National Commander Dan Ludwig, from Red Wing Post 54, was witness to and was a leading influence in getting this historic piece of bipartisan legislation passed. We welcome with open arms ALL of our fellow Veterans along with their families to be a part of The American Legion family!

The LEGION Act now opens up The American Legion's eligibility to approximately 6 million veterans which previously had not been eligible. It opens the eligibility for membership in The American Legion to anyone who had 1 day of federal active duty and has been honorably discharged or are still serving since December 7, 1941.

The existing American Legion membership applications are in the process of being updated but can still be used. It is recommended that prospective Legionnaires and recruiters write 'LEGION Act' in the eligibility date section of American Legion membership applications if they fall outside the previous war eras. The larger pool of veterans now eligible for The American Legion will also open their family members to eligibility in the Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary as well. Please contact your local post for application and further information.

Greg Peterson
President MACVSO

Our 2018 Boys Nation delegate, and 2019 Memorial Day speaker Peter Spengler has arrived for duty as a Cadet in Training at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Please keep him in your prayers and please send him a letter, card, or care package throughout the next 4 years as he pushes himself to be a great Air Force Officer:

Cadet Peter Spengler
PO Box 5774
USAF Academy, CO 80841



Aebleskiver Days Parade in Tyler MN,

Recent email sent out

To: All Legion Leadership

From: National Adjutant Dan Wheeler

Several members have indicated they were called by someone claiming to represent The American Legion – specifically me – requesting the member's checking account number so they could make a donation to The American Legion. Anyone making such a call is operating a scam.

The American Legion National Headquarters has not and will never call members requesting this type of information .

Attention Women Veterans:

V4V (Veterans for Veterans) is a nonprofit organization made up from the four Veterans Service Organizations: American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Purple Heart and Disabled American Veterans.

This group originally owned the Big Island on Lake Minnetonka and sold it to the city and is using the money from the sale to help veterans.

Each year V4V takes various groups on a boat trip of Lake Minnetonka and shows them the Big Island. This year they have decided to add a Women Veterans Day on the Lake. The American Legion is looking for 8 female veterans to enjoy a day, free of charge, on Lake Minnetonka, August 13th, 2019. The boat trip is about 3 hours long and lunch is provided.

If you are interested, please contact the Department Commander at departmentcommander@mnlegion.org. First eight to respond will be selected. Please send your name and contact info. Suspense is August 10th.

