

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION PROGRAM  
The 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The American Legion - Department of Minnesota  
MAHNOMEN, MINNESOTA\*\*\*\*\*July 13-15, 2017

**THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 13, 2017**

- 7-8:00 A.M. CAUCUS OF ALL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES BY DISTRICTS
- 8:30-9 A.M. Music
- 9:00 A.M. AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION SESSIONS – Shooting Star Casino, Detroit Lakes/Bejou Rm, Mahnomen  
CALL TO ORDER: Denise A. Milton, Department Commander, Bagley  
ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLORS -- 2016 Champions – Waite Park Post 428  
POW/MIA FLAG: Jim Kellogg, NS/FR Committee, Taopi  
Dennis DeLong, Department Sergeant at Arms, Bloomington  
INVOCATION: Bill Brockberg, Department Chaplain, Worthington  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
"THE PREAMBLE" -- Recital by Commander and Delegates  
GREETINGS: Terrence Tibbetts, Chairman, White Earth Nation  
The Honorable Dave Wiemer, Mayor, Mahnomen  
Richard Walz, Commander, Isaacson-Bjorge Post 31  
Eric Wilkens, Ninth District Commander, Detroit Lakes  
William Eck, General Convention Chairman, Waubun
- 9:30 A.M. READING OF THE CONVENTION CALL: Randy Tesdahl, Department Adjutant, St. Paul  
APPROVAL OF DEPT CONVENTION PUBLISHED PROGRAM BY CONVENTION ATTENDEES  
REPORT OF CONVENTION CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE  
REPORT OF CONVENTION RULES COMMITTEE  
ADVANCE READING OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT RESOLUTIONS:  
Don Walser, Past Department Judge Advocate, Hutchinson
- 9:45 A.M. GREETINGS: Douglas L. Boldt, National Vice Commander, Nebraska
- 9:50 A.M. GREETINGS: Larry Shellito, Commissioner, MN Department of Veterans Affairs  
Stephen D. Black, Director, St. Cloud, VA Health Care System  
Other Veterans Service Organizations  
Jason Marquardt, President, Minnesota Association of Veteran Service Officers  
RESPONSE: Jim Lucas, Department Vice Commander, Pine River
- 10:05 A.M. "REPORTING NATIONALLY" – Marland Ronning, National Executive Committeeman, Maple Grove
- 10:10 A.M. Legionnaire Insurance Trust, Bill Barbknecht, Chairman, Battle Lake
- 10:15 A.M. Centennial Minute, Al Zdon, National 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Observance Committee, St. Paul
- 10:20 A.M. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Presentation, Jennifer Havlick, Two Harbors & Ralph Schneekloth, Mable
- 10:50 A.M. PRESENTATIONS BY:  
Carl Moon, Employment Committee Chairman, St. Joseph  
GREETINGS: Scott Mills, Federal Director, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS)  
Jim Finley, State Director, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS)
- 11:00 A.M. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEES AND INSTRUCTIONS  
Randy Tesdahl, Department Adjutant, St. Paul
- 11:05 A.M. RECESS
- 11:15 A.M. JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE – Shooting Star Casino, Detroit Lakes/Bejou Room

1:00 P.M. MEETINGS OF ALL CONVENTION COMMITTEES.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Members serving on Convention Committees will please be prompt in attendance at assigned committee meetings.
2. Each committee will elect its own Chairman and Secretary. When work is finished, the Chairman or Secretary, (or both) will report to the Convention Department Headquarters at the Shooting Star Casino, Legion Headquarters Office, for assistance in preparing a typewritten report for presentation to the Convention assembled on Friday, July 14, 2017.
3. All Convention Committee reports should be presented and accepted in final form before adjournment on Friday, July 14, 2017, thus disposing of all business other than that which has been scheduled for Saturday morning.

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2:00 P.M. GAMBLING SEMINAR, Shooting Star Casino, Detroit Lakes/Bejou Room  
Moderator: Peggy Moon, Legislative Committee Chairman, St. Joseph

**FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 14, 2017**

- 7-8:00 A.M. CAUCUS OF ALL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES BY DISTRICTS --
- 8:30 A.M. CALL TO ORDER: Denise A. Milton, Department Commander, Bagley  
INVOCATION: Bill Brockberg, Department Chaplain, Worthington  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
"THE PREAMBLE": Recital by Commander and Delegates
- 8:45 A.M. REPORT: Credentials Committee, Lynne Nottage, Chairman, Minneapolis
- 8:55 A.M. YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES:  
SAL REPORT: Eugene Olswold, SAL Detachment Commander, New Ulm  
BOY SCOUT OF THE YEAR, Tom Hallett, Boy Scout Chairman, Mankato  
2017 LEGION BOYS STATE REPRESENTATIVE
- 9:15 A.M. REPORT: Minnesota American Legion Foundation, Lloyd Ricker, President, Dawson,
- 9:20 A.M. REPORT: V4V, Don Pankake, Member, Hutchinson
- 9:25 A.M. REPORT: Legionville Corporation, Wayne Gilbertson, President, Zimmerman
- 9:30 A.M. REPORT: Veterans Pheasant Dinner, Chuck Stone, Chairman, Owatonna
- 9:35 A.M. REPORT: Armed Forces Service Center, Joe Jansen, Representative, Arden Hills
- 9:40 A.M. REPORT: Kim Douglas, Creative Arts Director, Fargo VA Health Care System
- 9:50 A.M. QUILTS OF VALOR, Jenny Caughey, State Coordinator, Perham

10:10 A.M. AWARDS PRESENTATIONS:

Marie Goede, President, American Legion Hospital Assn., Plainview  
Terry Buraas, Children and Youth Chairman, Grand Forks, ND  
Art Tobkin, Americanism Chairman, Bagley  
Don Skow, Education Chairman, Lindstrom  
James Blakesley, Safety-School Patrol Chairman, Aitkin  
Tom Conway, Law and Order Chairman, Argyle  
Tom Sanders, Blood Chairman, Pine City  
Ralph Schneekloth, Yearbook and Narrative History Books, Mabel  
Bob Locker, Community Service Chairman, Fridley  
Glenn Mueller, Operation Post Home, St. Charles  
Peggy Moon, Legislative Chairman, St. Joseph  
Bob Mace, Bowling Chairman, Waite Park

11:15 A.M. NATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICE AWARDS:

Marland Ronning, National Executive Committeeman, Maple Grove

Wilson Spence, Rehabilitation Committee Chairman, Duluth  
"PAT" CLIFF AWARD to Outstanding Post Service Officer

Wilson Spence, Rehabilitation Committee Chairman, Duluth  
VA Physician of the Year Award to Dr. Candy Heinlein, MPLS VA Healthcare System

11:30 A.M. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Jennifer Havlick, Chairman, Two Harbors

11:40 A.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

12:00 Noon RECESS

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 14, 2017**

1:30 P.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

1:45 P.M. GREETINGS: Mrs. Carol Kottom, Department President, American Legion Auxiliary, Buffalo  
Sandie Deutsch, Department Secretary, American Legion Auxiliary, St. Paul

2:00 P.M. REPORT: Neal Loidolt, President/CEO, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV), Minneapolis

2:10 P.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

2:30 P.M. FINAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS: Mark Dvorak, Department Membership Director, LeCenter  
Gold Brigade Winners - Premier Plaque - Other Membership Awards

3:00 P.M. NOMINATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICE

4:30 P.M. BENEDICTION  
RETIREMENT OF THE COLORS  
RECESS

VOTING AT SHOOTING STAR CASINO FOR ONE HALF HOUR (30 MINUTES) FROM TIME OF RECESS

7:00 P.M. CONVENTION PARADE - 6:00 P.M. Parade Line-up

9:00 P.M. DISTRICT and CANDIDATES OPEN HOUSES,

**SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 15, 2017**

8:00 A.M. - POLLS OPEN for voting at Shooting Star Casino

9:00 A.M. POLLS CLOSE

8:30 A.M. CONCERT: Ninth District Band

9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER: Denise A. Milton, Department Commander, Bagley  
ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLORS: 2017 Color Guard Winner  
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM - Led by Ninth District Band  
INVOCATION: Bill Brockberg, Department Chaplain, Worthington  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
"THE PREAMBLE" - Recital by Department Commander and Delegates  
"CONVENTION MEMORIAL SERVICE": Bill Brockberg, Department Chaplain, Worthington

9:15 A.M. REPORT: David Bode, Parade Coordinator, Nicollet  
FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE  
REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS: Denise A. Milton, Department Commander, Bagley

9:20 A.M. REPORT: Mike Perry, American Legion Baseball Director, Minnetonka

9:25 A.M. 2017 ORATORICAL CONTEST WINNER, Debra Norman, Chairman, Northfield

9:30 A.M. REPORT: Shawn Davis, Department Webmaster, St. Paul

9:35 A.M. REPORT: Douglas L. Boldt, National Vice Commander, Nebraska

9:45 A.M. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS AND INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS  
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
    Presentation of Department Commander's Badge  
    Presentation of Past Department Commander's Insignia by Denise Milton's Family  
    Presentation of Miniature Department Colors to Retiring Commander  
        Jim Kellogg, Past Department Commander, Taopi  
FIVE DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDERS - without numerical designation  
CHAPLAIN  
HISTORIAN  
SERGEANT AT ARMS  
MEMBER OF PUBLICATION BOARD - for three-year term  
TWO/THREE DELEGATES-AT-LARGE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION  
FIVE ALTERNATES-AT-LARGE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

NOTE: The Department is entitled to five (5) Delegates-at-Large and five (5) Alternate Delegates-at-Large. The Department Constitution provides, under Article 8, Section 1, that: "The Delegates-at-Large to which the Department is entitled in the National Convention shall be elected by the Convention and shall include the incoming Commander, the incoming Department representative on the National Executive Committee, and the outgoing Commander." The National Constitution provides, under Article 7, Section 3, that the National Executive Committeeman shall be a delegate with vote, which shall be exercised with their respective Departments.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS ELECT -- (to be announced)  
BENEDICTION  
RETIREMENT OF THE COLORS  
ADJOURNMENT