

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION PROGRAM  
The 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of The American Legion - Department of Minnesota  
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA\*\*\*\*\*July 19-21, 2018

**THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 19, 2018**

- 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 – Mayo Civic Center, Presentation Hall, Rochester  
CALL TO ORDER: Mike Schaffer, Department Commander, Fulda  
ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLORS -- 2017 Champions – Waite Park Post 428  
POW/MIA FLAG: Jim Kellogg, NS/FR Committee, Taopi  
Garylee Davenport, Department Sergeant at Arms, Atwater  
INVOCATION: Ralph Schneekloth, Department Chaplain, Mabel  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
"THE PREAMBLE" -- Recital by Commander and Delegates  
GREETINGS: The Honorable Ardell F. Brede, Mayor, Rochester  
Joe Brown, Commander, WM. T. McCoy Post 92  
Lester Shaunce, First District Commander, Albert Lea  
Reid Oberle, General Convention Chairman, Rochester
- 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:  
Greg Colby, Department Judge Advocate, Northfield
- 9:45 A.M. GREETINGS: Larry Shellito, Commissioner, MN Department of Veterans Affairs  
Patrick Kelly, Director, Minneapolis, VA Health Care System  
Other Veterans Service Organizations  
Robbie Robinson, President, Minnesota Association of County Veterans Service Officers  
RESPONSE: Rosemary Niesen, Department Vice Commander, Cologne
- 10:00 A.M. "REPORTING NATIONALLY" – Marland Ronning, National Executive Committeeman, Maple Grove
- 10:10 A.M. Al Zdon, Communications Director, St. Paul
- 10:15 A.M. REPORT: Neal Loidolt, President/CEO, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans
- 10:25 A.M. REPORT: Robin Picray, Finance Committee, Chairman, St. Paul  
Finances in relation to Department Committee Structure
- 10:35 A.M. REPORT: Greg Colby, Department Judge Advocate, Northfield  
Responsibilities of Post, District, & Department Officers
- 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 – Mayo Civic Center, Presentation Hall

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 Mayo Civic Center, Legion Headquarters Office, for assistance in preparing a typewritten report for presentation to the Convention assembled on Friday, July 20, 2018.
3. All Convention Committee reports should be presented and accepted in final form before adjournment on Friday, July 20, 2018, thus disposing of all business other than that which has been scheduled for Saturday morning.

\*\*\*\*\*

2:00 P.M. GAMBLING SEMINAR, Mayo Civic Center, Presentation Hall  
Moderator: Peggy Moon, Legislative Committee Chairman, St. Joseph

**FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 20, 2018**

7-8:00 A.M. CAUCUS OF ALL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES BY DISTRICTS --

8:30 A.M. CALL TO ORDER: Mike Schaffer, Department Commander, Fulda  
INVOCATION: Ralph Schneekloth, Department Chaplain, Mabel  
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: Shawn Davis, SAL Detachment Commander, Brooklyn Center  
BOY SCOUT OF THE YEAR, Tom Hallett, Boy Scout Chairman, Mankato  
2018 LEGION BOYS STATE GOVERNOR, Thomas Nelson, Director, Jackson  
2018 ORATORICAL CONTEST WINNER, Linda Dvorak, Chairman, Le Center

9:15 A.M. REPORT: V4V, Don Pankake, Member, Hutchinson

9:20 A.M. REPORT: Brain Science Foundation, Jim Munson, President, Burnsville

9:30 A.M. REPORT: Legionville Corporation, Wayne Gilbertson, President, Zimmerman  
REPORT: "The Bog", Randy Tesdahl, Department Adjutant, St. Paul

9:45 A.M. REPORT: Armed Forces Service Center, Joe Jansen, Representative, Arden Hills

9:55 A.M. AWARDS PRESENTATIONS:

Marie Goede, President, American Legion Hospital Assn., Plainview  
Karen Welander, Children and Youth Chairman, Sunburg  
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  
Glenn Mueller, Yearbook and Narrative History Books, St. Charles  
Jennifer Kafka, Community Service Chairman, Blue Earth  
Glenn Mueller, Operation Post Home, St. Charles  
Peggy Moon, Legislative Chairman, St. Joseph  
John Torma, Bowling Chairman, Eveleth

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

Marland Ronning, National Executive Committeeman, Maple Grove

Wilson Spence, Rehabilitation Committee, Duluth

PAT CLIFF AWARD to Outstanding Post Service Officer

MN PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR Award

11:35 A.M. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Jennifer Havlick, Chairman, Two Harbors

11:45 A.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

12:00 Noon RECESS

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 20, 2018**

1:30 P.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

1:45 P.M. GREETINGS: Ms. Donna Arends, Department President, American Legion Auxiliary, Willmar  
Sandie Deutsch, Department Secretary, American Legion Auxiliary, St. Paul

2:00 P.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

2:30 P.M. FINAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS: Larry Ryan, Department Membership Director, Oakdale  
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 MAYO CIVIC CENTER FOR ONE HALF HOUR (30 MINUTES) FROM TIME OF RECESS

7:00 P.M. CONVENTION PARADE - 6:00 P.M. Parade Line-up  
AFTER PARADE BBQ – Immediately following parade, food & cash bar

**SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 21, 2018**

8:00 A.M. - POLLS OPEN for voting at Mayo Civic Center  
9:00 A.M. POLLS CLOSE

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

9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER: Mike Schaffer, Department Commander, Fulda  
ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLORS: 2018 Color Guard Winner  
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM - Led by Ninth District Band  
INVOCATION: Ralph Schneekloth, Department Chaplain, Mabel  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
"THE PREAMBLE" - Recital by Department Commander and Delegates  
"CONVENTION MEMORIAL SERVICE": Ralph Schneekloth, Department Chaplain, Mabel

9:15 A.M. REPORT: David Bode, Parade Coordinator, Nicollet  
FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE  
REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS: Mike Schaffer, Department Commander, Fulda

9:25 A.M. REPORT: Mike Perry, American Legion Baseball Director, Minnetonka

9:35 A.M. REPORT: Bill Barbknecht, Legionnaire Insurance Trust, Chairman, Battle Lake

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 Mike Schaffer's Family  
Presentation of Miniature Department Colors to Retiring Commander  
Denise Milton, Past Department Commander, Bagley  
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