

Preliminary – as of Wednesday, June 23, 2011
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION PROGRAM
The 93rd Annual Convention of The American Legion - Department of Minnesota
MAHNOMEN, MINNESOTA*****July 14-16, 2011

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 14, 2011

- 7:30 A.M. CAUCUS OF ALL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES BY DISTRICTS -- (See Page for Caucus Rooms.)
- 9:00 A.M. **AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION SESSIONS** – Mahnomen High School, Auditorium
CALL TO ORDER: Tom Lannon, Department Commander, Prior Lake
ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLORS -- 2010 Champions – Tri-City Post 513, New Brighton
POW/MIA FLAG: Terry Buraas, Chairman, POW/MIA Committee, Grand Forks, ND
Tom Kunkel, Department Sergeant at Arms, St. Cloud
INVOCATION: Rosemary Niesen, Department Chaplain, Cologne
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
"THE PREAMBLE" -- Recital by Commander and Delegates
GREETINGS: Erma Vizenor, Chairwoman, White Earth Nation
The Honorable Martin Warnsholz, Mayor, Mahnomen
Richard Walz, Commander, Isaacson-Bjorge Post 31, Mahnomen
Gary Olson, Ninth District Commander, Moorhead
Bill Eck, General Convention Chairman, Mahnomen
- 9:30 A.M. READING OF THE CONVENTION CALL: Randy Tesdahl, Department Adjutant
REPORT OF CONVENTION CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
REPORT OF CONVENTION RULES COMMITTEE
ADVANCE READING OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT RESOLUTIONS:
Don Walser, Department Judge Advocate, Hutchinson
- 9:45 A.M. GREETINGS: Larry Shellito, Commissioner, MN Department of Veterans Affairs
Robert P. McDivitt, Director, Fargo VAMC
Other Veterans Service Organizations
Pete Berscheit, President, County Veterans Service Officers Association
RESPONSE: John Bey, Department Vice Commander, Baudette
- 10:00 A.M. "REPORTING NATIONALLY" – Ray DeZurik, National Executive Committeeman, Nisswa
- 10:05 A.M. REPORT: Legionnaire Insurance Trust, Bill Barbknecht, Chairman, Underwood
- 10:10 A.M. REPORT: Minnesota American Legion Foundation, Wayne Gilbertson, President, Zimmerman
- 10:15 A.M. REPORT: Armed Forces Service Center, Michael Ash, Executive Board Member, St. Paul
- 10:20 A.M. REPORT Kathy Vitalis, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans
- 10:25 A.M. AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NW DIVISION NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
Lynne Wild, Department of Nebraska
- 10:35 A.M. VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION: Tom Burau, Dept Rehabilitation Chairman, Fergus Falls
- 10:50 A.M. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEES AND INSTRUCTIONS
Randy Tesdahl, Department Adjutant
- 11:00 A.M. RECESS
- 11:15 A.M. JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE – Shooting Star Casino, Convention Hall

1:00 P.M. MEETINGS OF ALL CONVENTION COMMITTEES. (See Page _____ of printed program for meeting rooms assigned.)

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 Mahnomen High School, for assistance in preparing a typewritten report for presentation to the Convention assembled on Friday, July 15, 2011.
3. All Convention Committee reports should be presented and accepted in final form before adjournment on Friday, July 15, 2011, thus disposing of all business other than that which has been scheduled for Saturday morning.

2:00 P.M. GAMBLING SEMINAR, Mahnomen High School, Auditorim
Moderator: Roger Ball, Legislative Committee Chairman, Oakdale

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 15, 2011

7:30 A.M. CAUCUS OF ALL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES BY DISTRICTS --
(See Page _____ for Caucus Rooms.)

8:30 A.M. CALL TO ORDER: Tom Lannon, Department Commander, Prior Lake
INVOCATION: Rosemary Niesen, Department Chaplain, Cologne
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
"THE PREAMBLE": Recital by Commander and Delegates

8:45 A.M. REPORT: Credentials Committee, Lynne Nottage, Chairman, Minneapolis

8:50 A.M. YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES:
SAL REPORT: Bill Peters, SAL Detachment Commander, Minneapolis
BOY SCOUT OF THE YEAR-MINNESOTA & NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR
Robert B. Rasmussen, Hutchinson
2011 LEGION BOYS STATE GOVERNOR
Graham Sparks, Rochester

9:10 A.M. REPORT: Veterans on the Lake, Deb Schaper, Business Manager, Ely
REPORT: Big Marine Vets Camp, Larry Ryan, St. Paul

9:20 A.M. REPORT: Jim Kellogg, President, Brain Science Foundation, Taopi

9:30 A.M. REPORT: Katie Ryan, Director, Voluntary Service, Minneapolis VAMC &
Jack Barrows, Chief of Voluntary Service, Fargo VAMC

9:40 A.M. REPORT: Joe Bayer, President, Legionville Corporation, Minneapolis

9:50 A.M. REPORT: Bob "Fuzz" Martin, Chairman, Veterans Pheasant Dinner, Owatonna

10:00 A.M. AWARDS PRESENTATIONS:

Dean Knutson, President, American Legion Hospital Assn., Dalton
John Affolter, Children and Youth Chairman, Mankato
Art Tobkin, Americanism Chairman, Bagley
Gary Weaver, Education Chairman, LaCrescent
James Blakesley, Safety-School Patrol Chairman, Aitkin
Tom Conway, Law and Order Chairman, Argyle
Richard Skillestad, Blood Chairman, Eyota
Darrel Redepenning, Trophies and Awards Chairman, Fridley
Mike Ash, Yearbook and Narrative History Books, St. Paul
Don Pankake, Community Service Chairman, Hutchinson
Richard Amundson, Operation Post Home, Delano
Roger Ball, Legislative Chairman, Oakdale
Merle Johnson, Bowling Chairman, Mankato

11:15 A.M. Tom Burau, Rehabilitation Committee, Fergus Falls
"PAT" CLIFF AWARD to Outstanding Post Service Officer

11:20 A.M. PRESENTATIONS BY:
Denise Milton, Employment Committee Chairman, Bagley
GREETINGS: Kevin Nagel, State Director
Veterans Employment and Training Service

11:25 A.M. REPORT: Rueben Nathe, American Legion Baseball Vice Director, Litchfield

11:30 A.M. NATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICE AWARDS:
Ray DeZurik, National Executive Committeeman, Nisswa

11:45 A.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

12:00 Noon RECESS

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 15, 2011

1:30 P.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

1:45 P.M. GREETINGS: Mrs. Darlene Wondra, Department President, American Legion Auxiliary, Montgomery
Cathy Radil, Interim Department Secretary, American Legion Auxiliary, St. Paul

2:00 P.M. CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS

2:30 P.M. FINAL MEMBERSHIP AWARDS: Peggy Moon, Department Membership Director, St. Joseph
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 MAHNOMEN HIGH SCHOOL FOR ONE HOUR FROM TIME OF RECESS

FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 15, 2011

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

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

- 8:00 A.M. -
9:00 A.M. Voting at MAHNOMEN HIGH SCHOOL
- 8:30 A.M. CONCERT: Ninth District Band
- 9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER: Tom Lannon, Department Commander, Prior Lake
ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLORS: 2011 Color Guard Winner
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM - Led by Ninth District Band
INVOCATION: Rosemary Niesen, Department Chaplain, Cologne
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
"THE PREAMBLE" - Recital by Department Commander and Delegates
"CONVENTION MEMORIAL SERVICE": Rosemary Niesen, Department Chaplain, Cologne
- 9:15 A.M. REPORT: Tom Schottenbauer, Parade Coordinator, St. Louis Park
FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS: Tom Lannon, Department Commander, Prior 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 Tom Lannon's Family
 Presentation of Miniature Department Colors to Retiring Commander
 Don Hayden, Past Department Commander, Le Center
FIVE DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDERS - without numerical designation
CHAPLAIN
HISTORIAN
SERGEANT AT ARMS
MEMBER OF PUBLICATION BOARD - for three-year term
TWO 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