

THE AMERICAN LEGION
Department of Minnesota

FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

October 28 - 29, 2011
Verizon Wireless Center
Mankato, Minnesota

P R O G R A M

Friday Morning, October 28, 2011 – Verizon Wireless Center, West Exhibition Hall

- 8:00 A.M. Call to Order – Chuck Kruger, Byron, Department Commander
- Advancement of Colors – Tri-City Color Guard, New Brighton Post 513
- POW/MIA Chair – Dean Knutson, Dalton, Department Sergeant at Arms
Larry Pocrnich, Hibbing, POW/MIA Chairman
- Invocation – Gary Olson, Moorhead, Department Chaplain
- Pledge of Allegiance – Harvey Noble, Ivanhoe, Department Vice Commander
- Preamble - In unison, led by the Department Commander
- 8:05 A.M. GREETINGS: Russel Merchlewitz, Post Commander, Lorentz Post 11, Mankato
Don Tietje, Fairmont, Second District Commander
Merle Johnson, Mankato, General Chairman
Eric Anderson, Mayor, Mankato
Reggie Worlds, Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
- 8:15 A.M. "THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER" Gary Olson, Moorhead, Department Chaplain
- 8:20 A.M. VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION Tom Newman, Department Service Officer
Jeremy Wolfsteller, Assistant Department Service Officer
- 9:20 A.M. MEMBERSHIP Billy Johnson, National Membership Director
- 10:20 A.M. POST DEVELOPMENT Robin Picray, St. Paul, Chairman
- 10:35 A.M. "REPORTING NATIONALLY" Ray DeZurik, Nisswa, NECman
- 10:45 A.M. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE Eva Stoner, Woodbury, Chairman
- 10:50 A.M. AMERICANISM Art Tobkin, Bagley, Chairman
- 11:40 A.M. LEGIONVILLE Joe Bayer, Legionville Board of Directors
- 11:50 A.M. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE Denise Milton, Bagley, Membership Director
- 12:00 NOON RECESS/LUNCH

Friday Afternoon, October 28, 2011 – Verizon Wireless Center, West Exhibition Hall – reconvene **Page two**

1:30 P.M.	CANDIDATE FOR NATIONAL CMDR	James Koutz, Indiana
2:00 P.M.	CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE	Terry Buraas, Grand Forks, ND, Chairman
2:15 P.M.	Linda Thompson, Otsego, Department President, MN American Legion Auxiliary Cathy Radil, St. Paul, Department Interim Secretary	
2:25 P.M.	Chuck Kruger, Byron, Department Commander, MN American Legion Randy Tesdahl, St. Paul, Department Adjutant	
2:35 P.M.	PUBLIC RELATIONS	Teresa Ash, St. Paul, Chairman
2:45 P.M.	2011 NATIONAL CONVENTION WRAP-UP & AWARD PRESENTATION	Jim Copher, 2011 National Convention Chairman
3:00 P.M.	RECESS	

Saturday Morning, October 29, 2011 – Verizon Wireless Center, West Exhibition Hall

9:00 A.M.	<i>SAL Fall Conference</i>	<i>Mankato Post 11, Lower Level</i>
8:00 A.M.	Reconvene General Session	Chuck Kruger, Byron, Department Commander
	Salute to Colors	Dean Knutson, Dalton, Department Sergeant at Arms
	Invocation	Gary Olson, Moorhead, Department Chaplain
	Pledge of Allegiance	Harvey Noble, Ivanhoe, Department Vice Commander
	Preamble	In unison, led by the Department Commander
8:05 A.M.	AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION	Wayne Gilbertson, Zimmerman, Vice President
8:10 P.M.	BRAIN SCIENCE	Jim Kellogg, Taopi, President
8:30 A.M.	LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST	Bill Barbknecht, Underwood, Chairman
8:40 A.M.	DEPT CONVENTION CORPORATION	Chairman
8:55 A.M.	COMMANDER'S PROJECT	Chuck Kruger, Byron, Department Commander
9:00 A.M.	Honorable Tim Walz, U.S. Representative	U.S. House Veterans Affairs Committee
9:20 A.M.	Gary Semmel, Anoka, Detachment Commander, Sons of The American Legion National Commander, Sons of The American Legion	
9:30 A.M.	VETERANS EMPLOYMENT	
10:30 A.M.	BASEBALL/EDEN PRAIRIE CHAMPIONS	Darwin Berg, Chaska, Director
10:45 A.M.	NATIONAL SECURITY/FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT AND MILITARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS	Curt Norenberg, Roseville, Chairman Guest Speaker

11:45 A.M. MEMBERSHIP FINAL REPORT

Denise Milton, Bagley, Membership Director

Closing Remarks and Conference
Wrap-Up

Chuck Kruger, Byron, Department Commander

Benediction

Gary Olson, Moorhead, Department Chaplain

Retirement of Colors

Tri-City Color Guard, New Brighton Post 513

Adjournment