



# Purple Heart

## 2016 Medal of Honor Convention

During the month of October, from 3rd til the 8th 2016, the Twin Cities had the Distinct privilege of hosting the "2016 Medal of Honor Convention." While in the cities, there were approximately 40 living Medal of Honor Recipients. On Wednesday the 5th, they had an official welcoming by being present as the Twin Cities unveiled the 1st National Monument dedicated to Medal of Honor. Later this monument will be placed on the wall leading up to the capitol in St. Paul.

Ms. Liz Dapp, along with her fantastic crew, worked tirelessly behind the scenes for over 5 plus years to make this event happen. First, acquiring the convention to the Twin Cities, getting sponsors, donations, security, hotel accommodations, and school visits for the Recipients each day, along with evening receptions the entire time. These folks can not be "Thanked Enough" for the many long days and nights with preparations, and many hours spent to make this a "ONCE IN A LIFETIME EVENT."

This event will never be forgotten by myself and all those who were in attendance throughout the week.

Once again, Thank You to all members of all the service organizations, the Commander's Task Force, sponsors, the Medal of Honor committee, and anyone else who participated in this outstanding event.

I personally will never forget the stories these men shared with me, and being in their presence is an Honor I will never forget. I was Humbled.

Adjutant, Chuck Jones



# CHAPTER MEETINGS

## NELS WOLD CHAPTER 5

Commander James Connolly: 651.457.1345  
 Adjutant Richard Jenkins: 651.459.6446  
 4th Saturday each month at So. St. Paul VFW Post #295  
 at Concord Exchanges, Concord Street at 10:30 AM  
 (except June, July, and August)

## CLAYTON CARMICHAEL CHAPTER 8 AND UNIT

Commander Russ Leighton: 612.722.4900  
 Adjutant William Bull: 952.472.3088  
 2nd Saturday at 10:30 AM each month at  
 Hopkins VFW at 100 Shady Oak Road, Hopkins, MN  
 (except July and August)

## DULUTH CHAPTER 56

Commander Brad Bennett: 218.727.4589  
 Adjutant John Marshall: jmarsh1@charter.net, 218.348.2929  
 Last Monday of each month at 1:00 PM at  
 Black Woods Bar & Grill located at 195 Hwy 2, Proctor, MN  
 (except July and August)

## MCCOMAS-LUNDE CHAPTER 194

Commander Martin Judd: 218.821.0640  
 Adjutant Alan Jensen: 218.927.3055  
 4th Thursday each month at 10:00 AM at the Senior Center  
 located at the corner of 8th and Kingwood in Brainerd, MN

## TWIN CITY CHAPTER 268 AND UNIT

Commander Joseph T Comerford: 612.298.0350  
 Adjutant Robert Connor: 651.738.3689  
 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:30 AM at the Richfield  
 VFW 5555 located at 6715 Lakeshore Dr., Richfield, MN  
 (except July and August)

## SAINT CLOUD CHAPTER 308

Commander Dale Thiel: dtmg2000@yahoo.com, 763.389.1613  
 Adjutant Norman Heino: nheino70@lakedalelink.net, 320.274.3837  
 4th Saturday each month at 10:30 AM  
 at Jimmy's Pour House; 22 2nd Avenue N, Sauk Rapids, MN

## C. LLOYD BECK CHAPTER 745

Commander Bruce Boyne: 218.631.2234  
 Adjutant Tim Pigatti: 218.732.9557  
 1st Saturday each month; March-November at 10:30 AM  
 at the "In Their Own Words" Veterans Museum,  
 805 Main St, Perham, MN

## PRAIRIELAND DEFENDERS CHAPTER 807

Commander Leonard Heiderscheidt: 507.794.4741  
 Adjutant Roy Janni: 507.354.2881  
 1st Saturday of every other month  
 (Dec, Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct)  
 at Holiday Inn, 2101 S Broadway (now Best Western)  
 in New Ulm. Breakfast at 9:00 AM/meeting at 10:00 AM

## NORTHERN METRO SUBURBS CHAPTER 987 AND UNIT

Commander Stephen L. Ruud: sl.ruud@comcast.net, 763.753.4268  
 Adjutant Michael L. Richardson: mick.mo72@gmail.com, 763.780.3356  
 2nd Saturday each month at 10:00 AM at the  
 Fridley VFW, 1040 Osborne Road, Fridley, MN  
 (except June, July and Aug)

## RED WING CHAPTER 1977

Commander Robert Snitgen: 651.565.2163  
 Adjutant Alfred Holtan: 651.564.0895  
 1st Wednesday of every month at 9:00 AM at  
 Liberty's Cafe, 303 West 3rd Street, Red Wing, MN

## WINONA CHAPTER 5555

Commander David Meyers: trinityhill@centurylink.net, 507.689.4175  
 Adjutant Gordon Nelson: 507.450.5792  
 1st Wednesday at 7:00 PM at the Winona VFW Post #1287  
 208 East 3rd Street, Winona, MN

## LLOYD - SWENSON CHAPTER 7110

Commander Duane Hodge: 507.533.4110  
 Adjutant Harry Kerr: 507.273.0411  
 3rd Thursday 6:00 PM at the Rochester VFW  
 16-6th Street S, Rochester, MN  
 (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep, and Nov)

# 2016/2017 · OFFICERS

## DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander	Willie B. Pargo
Sr. Vice Commander	Ryan Sabinish
Jr. Vice Commander	Kim Zarbinski
Adjutant	Charles Jones
Finance Officer	William Bull
NEC	Ryan Sabinish
ALTNEC	Kim Zarbinski
Sgt-at-Arms	Terry Anderson
Judge Advocate	Charles Jones
Inspector	Duane Hodge
Legislative Officer	Robert Connor
Chief of Staff	Glenn Boche
Chaplain	Richard Jenkins

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Kathy Kinser
Sr. Vice President	Sheryl Osburn
Jr. Vice President	Lorraine Irmen
Secretary	Miriam Holtan
Treasurer	Pat Capistrant
Chaplain	Helen Volz
Historian	Gloria German
Sgt-at-Arms	Paula Case
3yr. Trustee	Bonnie Broton
2yr. Trustee	Betty Peck
1yr. Trustee	Diane Lind
Marshall	Val Boche
Parliamentarian	Sharon Carlton
Patriotic Instruct	Mary Ann Melquist

## NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS

OFFICE DIRECTOR	NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER
· DAVE SROCK ·	· RACHAEL WITNIK ·
P: 612.970.5667	P: 612.970.5667
Email: david.srock@va.gov	Email: rachael.witnik@va.gov



Appearing above in the Honor Guard

## BOOSTER CLUB

Duane & Gloria Schinn;  
Stephen & Marjory Sagstetter;  
Donald O. & Karen Thompson;  
and Harry S. Klyve



## RECREATING THE KISS



Trudy and Raymond "Bud" Temme recreated the iconic photo of a returned sailor and nurse kissing in Time Square recently. The Spirit of 45 Celebration honored these hero's on August 14th, 2016. Bud is a Purple Heart recipient and was the only MOPH member from Minnesota invited to this historic event. Bud was wounded in the fighting in the Pacific and also received the Bronze Star while fighting in Europe during World War II.

## Medal of Honor Convention 2016



Hard Working Ladies!

Twin Cities. (left to right) Beatrice Adenodi; Tiffany Kovaleski; Glaiza Regis

## DEPARTMENT SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Greetings,

I would like to introduce myself, I am the Department Senior Vice Commander, Ryan Sabinish. I have also served as Department Jr. Vice Commander and Department Sergeant at Arms, also served as the Rochester Chapter Senior Vice Commander, Rochester Chapter Commander and currently the Sergeant at Arms.

I am an Iraq Veteran from Southern Minnesota, born and raised in Albert Lea. I am a single parent of a 6 year old and a 1 year old. So, I understand the busy schedules of our younger members, but I strongly believe in continued service.

I'm very proud of the veteran work I have done at the chapter level with a scholarship program for children and/or grandchildren of Purple Heart Veterans' from the Rochester chapter. It would be great to see other chapters adopt this program that has almost doubled our membership over the last three years.

Senior members often have difficulty understanding the decrease in membership as there are far less Iraq & Afghanistan veterans that receive the Purple Heart. This is a good thing because it means far less veterans are getting wounded in war.

What all members need to focus on is recruiting members and associate members from all wars. Associate members could be children or grandchildren of Purple Heart Veterans and especially bringing in Gold Star families.

I am a child of a Vietnam Veteran, who passed away from agent orange. A grandchild of a World War II Veteran, & a great grandchild of a World War I Veteran. I strongly believe that combat veterans are a family and we must help each other.

I look forward to the future as serving as your Department Commander and hopefully getting to know more members at the chapter level.

Ryan Sabinish, Senior Vice Commander



# COMMANDER'S REPORT

Willie Pargo, Commander Department of MN

Department of Minnesota Military Purple Heart consist of 12 chapters. With our total membership at 1400+. We were able to recruit a few new members this year.

Some of our yearly accomplishments have been, increased hours for VAVS; presented medals to JRROTC/ ROTC cadets; participated in proper disposal of flag ceremonies; increased donations to the VA facilities & veterans homes; and participate in veterans programs. We have increased our visibility around the community and the state within trying to increase attendance to Department meetings to be informative to our chapters.

Highlight of the summer months include the Purple Heart Viola Drive and the resume attendance of a chapter meetings.

Membership is always at the top. We would like to increase, at least, by 10% as in the past our new members have just kept up with those we have lost from death. Our membership goals have been quite aggressively but we did fall short. We'll need to work on this.

Willie Pargo, Commander



Kathy Kinser

## UPDATES, NEWS & THANK YOU'S

Together we accomplish the goal of helping, giving and working with our Veterans. Our members need to know we are doing these basic goals to keep our Units active and relevant to our Veterans. Come to The Fall Executive Board Meeting held October 8th was attended by Unit 8, 194 ,268 and 987. Unit 5 was excused. Discussion at the meeting was open and helpful...lots of fun sharing. The Great Annual LAMOPH Picnic was a success at the new picnic grounds in Richfield. We asked Lorraine to schedule the picnic again at Richfield in June.

November brings Veterans Day, Pheasant Luncheons at the Homes and Thanksgiving. Thoughts of being together, sharing being thankful for our families and all our Service Men and Women and families. Blessed we have a Nation and People that can work together with whatever life gives us.

### Things you need to Know!!

Joe Kovar goes out and speaks to many groups about his Service Time if you would like to hear him g to Joe Kovar on UTube... it is worth every minute. The donations he receives is used to give back to the Veterans.... every penny. I was a recipient of his donations through Unit 8 ladies. They gave \$1000.00 to the monthly Birthday Parties at the MPLS. VA. THANK YOU!

Pat Brockel from Unit 8 has a daughter in Tennessee who has made many lap blankets for the Mpls. VA in memory of her father. THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to Lorraine Irmen, Gloria German and Diane Lind for all their work and Super Picnic. THANK YOU!

To our men and women....past, present and future God bless you... and THANK YOU!!

Kathy Kinser, Ladies Auxiliary President

# Playing in the Sand Ocean City, NJ



A sand sculpture on the beach in Ocean City, New Jersey. See the actual process in a video at <https://youtu.be/5mhBNkI0ANc>

Have an Event, Article or Photo to share. . .

Send an email to Chuck Jones at: [cjmoph1@gmail.com](mailto:cjmoph1@gmail.com)

## HELPING OUT



Past Dept. Commander Glenn Boche & his wife, Valerie, at the Cub West St. Paul Store on November 5th doing a Viola Drive for Chapter 5.



Chapter 5 Commander David Bild & his wife, Jackie, did a donation drive at the Cottage Grove Cub with great success.



My fellow Patriots,

As you know, the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month is set aside as a special day to honor and reflect on the many sacrifices that you and the many other brave men and women who have served in our Nation's Armed Forces have made while defending the freedoms all Americans are able to enjoy.

Veterans Day is not just a day off for barbecues or a shopping spree. Unlike Memorial Day, in which we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice, Veterans Day honors the many other patriotic men and women who also gave a significant part of their lives to serve in the military so that the United States might continue to be the greatest nation in the world. Fortunately, they were able to return to their homes and their families, and continue to contribute to making their communities a better place to live.

I recall vividly a former President's Veterans Day message in which he said, "Today we gather to honor those who have rendered the highest service any American can offer to this nation: Those who have fought for our freedom and stood sentry over our security. Every American who ever put on this nation's uniform in war or peace has assumed risks and made sacrifices on our common behalf. This day belongs to all of them -- to all who have protected our land we love over all the decades, and now, over two centuries of our existence. We also honor our veterans today by noting the outstanding service being rendered around the world at this moment by the most talented and the best prepared group of men and women who have ever worn our nation's uniform."

It is with a spirit of pride and gratitude that we honor and remember all veterans today, especially those of you who bear the physical and psychological scars of war. I urge you to take this opportunity to give special thanks to those veterans in your family and circle of friends for their service and sacrifice.

Yours in Patriotism,  
Honorable Hershel W. Gober  
National Commander

# Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Minnesota

Adjutant Chuck Jones  
134 Veterans Service Building  
20 12th Street W, Room 134  
St. Paul, MN 55155

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Permit #71



*Happy  
Thanksgiving*



*Merry  
Christmas*



*Happy  
New Year*

## 75th Commemoration of Pearl Harbor Live on YouTube



*Photos provided by Paul Lubbers, Retired Air Force Fire Fighter*

A special program will be held December 7 to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The program will be held from 10-11 a.m. at the Minnesota Historical Society, 345 W Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55102.

Hosted by the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, the Fort Snelling National Cemetery Memorial Rifle Squad, the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, this event is open to the public. For the first time, this event will also be live streamed to schools and veteran organization Posts and Halls around the state.

### The program will include:

- Posting of colors • Pledge of Allegiance • Remarks by Brigadier General Joseph Kelly (retired) • Invocation, music and a special video tribute • Rifle Salute

**Log-on and watch live: [mnhs.org/pearlharborevent](http://mnhs.org/pearlharborevent) to view this free program.**

View the  
**Minnesota 75th  
Commemoration  
of Pearl Harbor**  
live on YouTube  
Wednesday,  
December 7, 2016;  
10-11 A.M. CST

