



Purple Heart

— 2019 —

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION



The Military Order of the Purple Heart
Department of Minnesota
May 2019 Convention

**Friday, May 17th
and Saturday, May 18th**

2700 Pilot Knob Road
Eagan, MN
651.454.3434

Fridays meeting will start at **5:00pm**.
First Responder Ceremony will be held on
the Saturday the 18th starting at **8:00am**,
lasting until **9:00am**. At 9:00am we will
conduct the Memorial Service lasting one
hour. At **10:00am**, the first meeting for the
Military Order of the Purple Heart will start.

Remember **attendance is mandatory for
Chapter Commanders** or it will financially
affect your Chapter per 2019 Rule
Change past by membership at the 2018
Department Convention.



CHAPTER MEETINGS

NELS WOLD CHAPTER 5 & UNIT

Commander David Bild, 651.459.4175

Adj. Glenn Boche 651.455.6801

4th Saturday each month 10:30am at

American Legion Post 98 in St. Paul Park
except May, June, July, August and December

CLAYTON CARMICHAEL CHAPTER 8 & UNIT

Commander Gordie Sanderson 952.933.0315

Adj. Bill Bull 952.594.2374

2nd Saturday each month at 10:30am at
Hopkins VFW Post 425 except July and August

DULUTH CHAPTER 56

Commander Brad Bennett 218.727.4589

Adj. John Marshall 218.348.2929

Last Monday of the month at 1pm at

Black Woods Grill & Bar except for

December and January

MCCOMAS-LUNDE CHAPTER 194 BRAINERD

Commander Martin Judd 218.821.0640

Adj. AC Jensen 218.927.3055

4th Thursday each month at

Senior Center in Brainerd

TWIN CITY CHAPTER 268 & UNIT RICHFIELD

Commander David Bellis 952.440.3342

Adj. Bob Connor 651.738.3789

3rd Saturday at 10:30am at

Richfield VFW Post 5555 except for

July and August

ST CLOUD CHAPTER 308

Commander Dale Theil 763.389.1613

Adj. Norm Heino 320.274.3837

4th Saturday each month at 10:30am at

Jimmy's Pour House in Sauk Rapids, MN

ROBERT C ELLSWORTH CHAPTER 745 PERHAM

Commander Roger Bahls 218.631.4476

Adj. Tim Pigatti 218.732.9557

1st Thursday at 3:00pm March through October at

Veterans Museum in Perham, MN

PRAIRIELAND DEFENDERS CHAPTER 807

NEW ULM

Commander Terry Anderson 507.236.4653

Adj. Roy Janni 507.353.2881

1st Saturday of February, April, June, August,

October and December at

Best Western Hotel in New Ulm, MN

NORTHERN METRO SUBURBS CHAPTER 987 & UNIT

Commander Steven Ruud 763.753.4268

Adj. Michael Richardson 763.780.3356

2nd Saturday in September through May

at 10:00am at the VFW Post 1040 in

Fridley, MN

RED WING CHAPTER 1977

Commander James Noll 651.335.2243

Adj. Alfred Holtan 651.564.0895

1st Wednesday each month at 10:00am at

National Eagle Center in Wabasha, MN

Contact the Commander if you are attending a

Chapter meeting first.

WINONA CHAPTER 5555

Commander Richard Holdorf 507.474.4883

Adj. Gordon Nelson 507.450.5792

1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at

Winona VFW Post 1287

LLOYD-SWENSON CHAPTER 7110 ROCHESTER

Commander Duane Hodge 507.443.4110

Adj. Harry Kerr 507.273.0411

3rd Thursday each month at 6:00pm

Rochester VFW Post 1215

2018-2019 OFFICERS

Commander Ryan Sabinish

Sr. Vice Commander Terry Anderson

Jr. Vice Commander David Bellis

Adjutant Glenn Boche

Finance Officer William Bull

Nec Terry Anderson

AltNec David Bellis

Sgt at Arms Stan Broton

Judge Advocate Chuck Jones

Chief of Staff Chaplin Kay Swenson

Welfare Officer Richard Jenkins

Inspector Greg Moon

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President Sheryl Osburn

Sr. Vice President Lorraine Irmen

Jr. Vice President Miriam Holtan

Secretary Linda Bellis

Treasurer Michelle Steur

Chaplin Cecelia Jenkins

Historian Betty Peck

Sgt at Arms Paula Case

3yr Trustee Mary McCracken

2yr Trustee Maggie Bondurant

1yr Trustee Bonnie Broton

Marshall Parliamentarian Kathy Kinzer

Patriotic Instructor Dianne Hanzal

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER

Office

612.970.5667

GREETINGS FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Hello fellow Purple Heart veterans,

As you read this Department newsletter we have already taken part in the March 20th Veterans day on the hill, the last 6 months the Minnesota Military Order of the Purple Heart and other major veteran organizations in Minnesota have been spending numerous hours developing and supporting veteran legislative activities and seeking support from Minnesota legislative and executive branch. Our major push was elimination of the 8 year limit for homestead market exclusion for surviving spouse in addition of the one-time transferable and making that a permanent thing, big thanks to Bob Conner, Department Legislative Officer for his continued service to fellow veterans.

Recently, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Robert Wilkie announced a new initiative that will be placing Purple Heart recipients at the "front of the line" for benefits claims. The Military Order of the Purple Heart has service officers located in Minnesota that can help with VA disability comp. claims, pension claims, education claims and many



other veteran related issues. The local number for the National Military Order of the Purple Heart service officer is 612.970.5667.

In the last couple months I had spent numerous hours securing a grant for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs. This money was used to purchase "Welcome to our Purple Heart Community" road signs. The department will provide two road signs to the next 20 cities or counties that would like to be proclaimed a Purple Heart Community. If you would like to find out more information, please go to the department website at purpleheartmn.org and look for

guidelines to establishing a Purple Heart city or county. Most importantly I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to service as your department-commander for almost a year and the last five years as a department officer and six years as a chapter officer. I look forward to my new adventure with the Heroes to Heroes foundation that provide spiritual healing and peer support for American combat veterans that have suffered from a moral injury by leading veterans on a life-changing journey to Israel.

Ryan Sabinish
*Minnesota Military Order of the
Purple Heart Commander*

ADJUTANTS CORNER

Hopefully by the time all are reading this, that the last of the snow has fallen. I like winter but this was a bit too much in too short of a time. Yes, there is grass under all of that snow.

At this very moment that many of you are aware of, issues playing out between the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the National Service Foundation. Only time will tell. There are also changes taking place at the offices of our National Service Office at the Whipple Building. Nothing can be said further about that at this time but there will be a MOPH Service Officer on board to help our Veterans.

My following comments are directed to all Chapter Officers and Chapter Patriots Our numbers, along with other Veteran organizations, are slowly dwindling down. This is happening all over the country.

I ask all Patriots to actively support their Chapters by attending meetings, participating in Viola or fundraising drives, and support your Chapter by promoting it and being involved as an officer. It does not take much time to do that.

For The Good of the Order



Unit 5 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, recently donated a large van full of needed items to the Hastings, Minnesota Veterans Home.

Pictured above are left to right: Bonnie Broton, Unit 5 President Terri Brown, and Sue Register from the Hastings Veteran Home.

ACCELERATE DISABILITY BENEFITS CLAIMS PROCESSING

For Purple Heart Medal Recipients

Secretary Wilkie testifies that VA will accelerate disability benefits claims processing for Purple Heart Medal recipients

WASHINGTON — Today at a congressional hearing VA Secretary Robert Wilkie announced that effective in April, it will provide priority disability benefits claims processing for the initial claims from discharged combat Veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart Medal.

Secretary Wilkie announced his decision at a hearing before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

“Those who hold the Purple Heart, the recognition of wounds taken in battle, will now receive priority consideration when it comes to claims before the Department of

Veterans Affairs,” said Secretary Wilkie.

The Veterans Benefits Administration will amend its priority processing categories to include initial claims received from Purple Heart recipients on or after April 1, 2019.

Purple Heart recipients are already treated on a priority basis at VA hospitals and are exempt from co-payments for their medical care.

The Purple Heart award is the oldest U.S. military decoration and is awarded to U.S. service members for wounds suffered at the hands of the enemy. General George Washington awarded the first purple-colored heart-shaped badges to soldiers who fought in the Continental Army during the American Revolution. In 1932, it was revived to commemorate Washington’s 200th birthday.

For The Good of the Order IN THE NEWS AT THE DEPARTMENT



Pictured: Former Department Commander Willie Pargo and present VAVS Officer for the Department of Minnesota is presenting a Christmas stocking to one of the many Veterans the VAVS helps out with at the Minneapolis VA Hospital.



Pictured: Department Jr. Vice Commander David Bellis is serving a prime rib dinner to one of the Veterans recently at the Minneapolis VA Hospital. This is an event that Chapter 268 does each year for those Veterans.



DINNER, AUCTIONS AND THE **BOOKER MINI BAND**



SATURDAY APRIL 27th
5pm - 9pm
ROCHESTER VFW POST #1215
2775 43rd Street NW Rochester MN 55901



**100% OF PROCEEDS GO TO THE MILITARY ORDER OF
THE PURPLE HEART - LLOYD SWENSON #7110
AND THE MN POW/MIA RIDERS ASSOCIATION**

TICKETS: \$50 in advance/ \$55 at the door
\$350 FOR TABLE OF 8 INCLUDES PREMIUM SEATING, TABLE TOPPER AND RECOGNITION

FOR TICKETS, CONTACT MARK UGLAND (507) 272-8999
AUCTION ITEM DONATIONS, CONTACT CRAIG UGLAND (507) 259-2608
CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE "HERO'S AMONG US"

For The Good of the Order IN THE NEWS AT THE DEPARTMENT



A few of the Rochester Chapter 7110 members along with Dept Commander Sabinish attending the presentation designating Rochester as a Purple Heart City.



Shown are the happy faces at the Silver Bay Veterans Home after the recent donation of \$800 to all five of the Minnesota Veterans Home during the recent Christmas Holiday Season.

Military Order of the Purple Heart
Department of Minnesota

20 12th Street W, Room 163D
St. Paul, MN 55155

