



2nd District Oct Newsletter

“Second to None”

Greetings from the Commander,

Well as of 10/4/17 the 2nd District is in 1st place for membership in the Department at 62.22%. Thanks to all the Post for making this happen. Let's keep the momentum going and clinch the Brown Jug for 2nd District on 11/15/17. We have to be at 80% to earn the Brown Jug. The last date for mail-ins to Department is 11/3/2017 to be in the 11/15 count to earn the Brown Jug. The last date for Post electronic online transactions is 11/9. The last date for individual member to pay online through MyLegion.org is 11/11.

The Department finance audit has been completed and all corrections made. Post should start to see membership updates on the 25th of October. Over 2000 cards have been on hold at department waiting on the completion of this audit. This audit was required to insure the books are accurate but put a hold on money transactions. At the time of securing Jerry White's replacement the finance officer unexpectedly decided to move on to another position away from the American Legion. Tara Henderson was hired as Director of Operations replacing Jerry White. It was discovered in the onset of the search for a new finance officer that Tara coming to the department has extensive experience in finance so was offered the position leaving the Director position to fill again. The Department of Ohio now has a full accompaniment of officers. The Department Commander, the Adjutant, and myself, ask for all to be patient as the tenure of the replacements is less than 6 months.

This past conference was very weak in attendance and I blame myself for the turnout. I have to understand that the audience within the 2nd District isn't completely tech worthy. My life at home and at work is around video conferencing, instant chat, and emails. I don't want to come off giving an excuse but to inform you that my livelihood is exactly the path that Department of Ohio is heading. In fact don't be surprised that committee meetings will be a video conference call over the internet or buy phone with the ability to talk to all 14 committee chairs in the Department. So far the DEC has voted 2 times in the last 3 weeks on employment candidates for the Department over the internet. Could you imagine the length of time it would have taken the DEC to respond if the employment resolution was conducted by regular mail? All I am saying is that email is the speed of communication for the future. I have taken notice and I will be sending out reminders 1 month before the upcoming conference.

Now I don't want the Post in 2nd District that aren't computer savvy to thank they have to buy a computer because there certainly are Post members that have a computer and can assist in this capacity. Belle Center Post 266 is a prime example of thinking out of the box when it comes to

communication short falls. They have a young veteran that just became a member of the Post and has offered his computer skills to the Post. He understands the need. They are now registered with MyLegion.org and he is now the Communication Officer for the Post. Commanders; the young veteran, wants to get involved and they are sitting in the canteen waiting to be asked. That's right; we need them as they don't need us to receive the benefits they have earned. I didn't see any question asking if I was a member of a Post in good standing when I enrolled in the VA. Please have your appointed communication person email me so I get them added to the group. My email is airforce44spg@gmail.com.

Call me, Post that aren't registered on MyLegion.org, and I will get the list of membership prospects for your surrounding area. Create a membership committee in the Post. Work on the 888's that have paid 2018 followed by the membership that last paid in 2016. You need to know why they didn't renew! They may need our help more than ever and I am afraid the spouse doesn't know where to turn for help.

Upcoming events in the District:

*Every Post by now should have received their packet for ordering the A&G test. Call department if you haven't received the packet because they may not have an address for a Post contact. Testing is scheduled to take place in early November for those Posts that participate.

District Bowling Tournament information will be going out. The tournament will be held on November 18 at the Plaza Bowling Center in Celina. Celina Post 210 is hosting the event.

Oct 18th, St Marys Post 323 is hosting the 2nd meeting for Commanders and 1st Vice around membership at 7pm. The latest numbers show we are short 1027 members from reaching the goal of claiming the Brown Jug for 2nd District. Please get your membership teams together and work those 888 and renewal list.

District Commander Homecoming, 12/2/17, Isaac Van Wert Post 178, 631 W Main Street, Van Wert, OH 45891. Social is at 5 PM with Dinner at 6 PM.

Next District Conference is on 12/10/17, at Lima Post 96. Please mark your calendar and send a representative from your Post to bring back informative news to your post. A few of your comrades has given up their time to gather this information. It is too costly to send out all the information gathered is why these conferences are held. Please make it a point of interest to be presence so this presented information is being brought back locally to better inform the veterans in your community. We are a quarter of the way through the Legion year and the District is in need of a candidate for 2 Vice in 2018 – 2019 . Please comb your Post for a prospect for this rewarding and fun position.

Please get your events to John McJunkin so he can get them posted on the website. This is free advertisement to the Post. Hope to see you at the events and especially at the next conference.

For God, Country, and the American Legion.

Kent Long, Commander,

2nd District, Second to None
Department of Ohio