

**LARRY RIPPLINGER**  
**9th District Commander**

Hello,

Greetings from the 9th. Winter went fast and so far the 9th is gaining on getting memberships in. In November on Veterans Day I was in attendance for the Dedication of The Veterans

Memorial at Detroit Lakes and later was a guest speaker at the Middle River Veterans Day Dinner.

In December I was at the Breckenridge Post as a guest for their Membership Dinner and Awards night. The Breckenridge Post is working on getting a Squadron going and I was also there for a meeting.

In January the 9th District held our Mid Winter Conference in Thief River Falls. In early February I thought the 6th Dist. was meeting in Waite Park I showed up only to find out I was a week early. After finding out I had my dates mixed up I contacted Cliff the 6th Dist. SAL Commander and met up with Cliff and his wife Alice and caught up on old times.

As I write this we have a potential blizzard bearing down on this area and we have been pretty lucky this winter. Now that spring is around the corner its time for Spring Conference and all the Districts to get together. So let's make this one a good one and have a great Convention.

Thanks for all you do for your Posts and Communities and remember, Membership is our Strength and Strength is our Membership.