

Happy 100th Birthday American Legion

By: Amanda Washburn



The American Legion celebrated its 100th birthday on March 15, 2019. The first 100 years of The American Legion has been filled with many firsts and a whole century of advocating for our nation's veterans, active military, and their families, creating opportunities for our nation's youth, and working for our local communities.

The American Legion was born out of Lt. Col Teddy Roosevelt Jr.'s idea to start a veterans organization after the first world war. Roosevelt convinced 20 officers to join him for dinner to plan the well-known Paris Caucus. This caucus was held March 15-17, 1919. The caucus then planned to hold another caucus in America. The St. Louis Caucus was then held in May 1919 to adopt the official name "The American Legion", a preamble, and constitution. The American Legion was chartered by Congress as the only war-time veterans service organization on September 16, 1919.

The Nebraska American Legion was officially chartered on August 1, 1920, but the foundation for the state organization was started much earlier. On April 5, 1919, a mass meeting of Nebraskans was held in Omaha to make plans for a state convention. Allan A. Tukey of Omaha arranged the

meeting that was held in Lincoln on May 3 and he served as chairman of the meeting. WWI veterans from 18 counties attended the meeting and they elected John A. Maher of Lincoln as the first ever Commander. It was made known at the meeting that there would be no distinction of rank, branch, or place of service, no distinction in class, creed, or color, and no deception or selfishness in The American Legion.

Over its 100 years, the Nebraska American Legion has supported the youth of the state through various programs. Each year an Eagle Scout of the Year is chosen to honor their dedication to scouting. For 79 years, almost 400 young men are sent to Boys' State each June to learn more about patriotism, government, and leadership. Started by Nebraska in June of 1968, the Junior Law Cadet Program is held each year to teach high school students about law enforcement careers. Nebraska held its 81st annual Constitutional High School Oratorical Contest in January to continue to teach students about the constitution and how it protects our rights as Americans. The Junior Shooting Sports program was formed to teach gun safety and marksmanship to middle and high school students. The Nebraska American Legion Baseball program has over 4,000 players from across the state and continues to be one of the top five programs in the nation by number of teams registered. Each year the Nebraska American Legion awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to descendants of American Legion members and students in ROTC programs at a Nebraska University school. County Government Day is held in many of the 93 counties of Nebraska. It is a day where high school students are able to learn how their county government functions and the necessity of such a government.

The Nebraska American Legion continues to honor the service of those who give back to our communities. Each January a Law Enforcement Officer and a Firefighter/EMS personnel from Nebraska are recognized for their hard work and selfless bravery while performing their duties. Each June one elementary, middle, and high school teacher from Nebraska are recognized for their hard work and dedication to teaching our states youth and promoting patriotism.

Congratulations on 100 years Nebraska American Legion and here is to another 100 years of supporting our nations military and veterans.

Washington Conference



when they traveled to Washington D.C. to take part in The American Legion's annual Washington Conference. The members met with the Nebraska Senators and Representatives to lay out and promote the 2019 American Legion Legislative priorities.

Nebraska American Legion Family members continued their effort to help not only veterans in Nebraska, but those all over the United States

National Emergency Fund



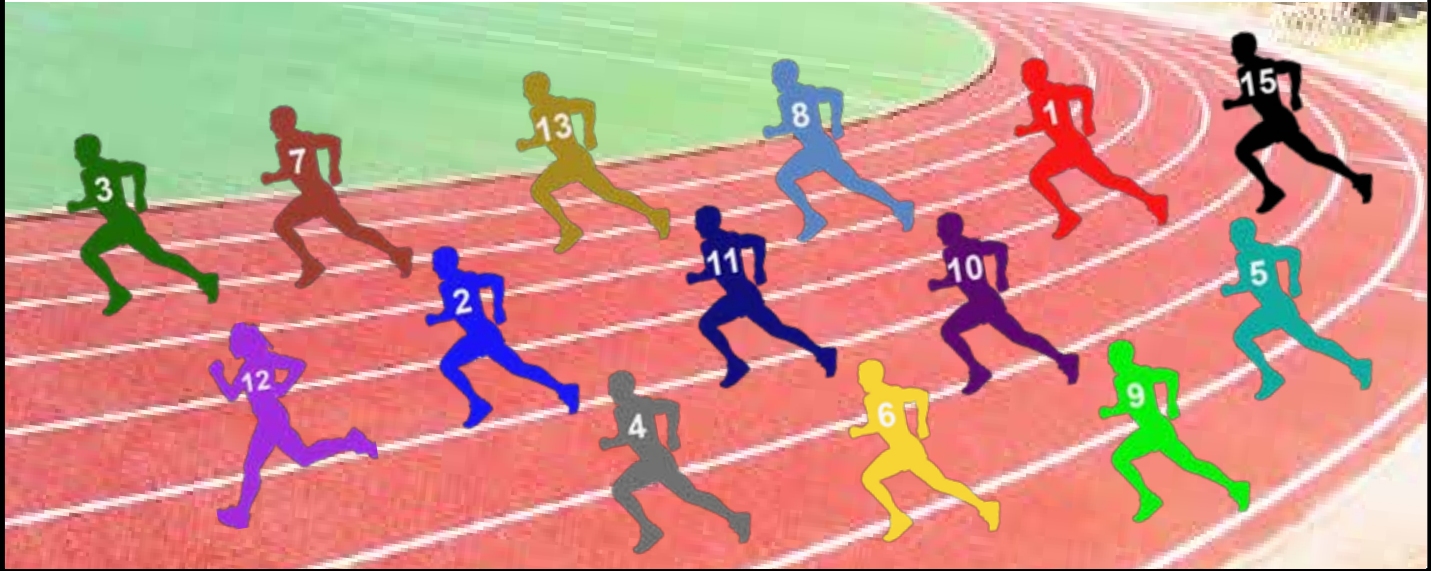
The National Emergency Fund is available to any Legionnaire, Sons of The American Legion member, or Legion Post who was displaced from their primary residence due to damage that is sustained during a declared natural disaster.

There is only one grant per household per disaster and the member applying must be current on their membership at the time of the disaster. Go to www.legion.org/emergency/apply or contact your District Commander for more information.

SPRINTING TOWARDS 100%

2019 MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 29,566 MARCH 15TH TOTAL: 26,322 - 89.03%

DISTRICT 3—91.68%	DISTRICT 12—91.68%	DISTRICT 7—91.31%	DISTRICT 2—91.05%	DISTRICT 4—90.86%
DISTRICT 13—90.72%	DISTRICT 11—90.15%	DISTRICT 6—89.68%	DISTRICT 8—89.42%	DISTRICT 10—88.98%
DISTRICT 9—88.71%	DISTRICT 1—88.67%	DISTRICT 5—87.88%	DISTRICT 15—87.31%	





Commander's Corner

Lyle Bartels
Department Commander



Recently members of the Nebraska American Legion Family and myself traveled to Washington D.C. and attended the 59th annual Washington Conference. While we were there, we attended numerous meetings and visited the offices of both our US Senators and Congressional Representatives. When visiting these offices we stressed 13 veteran issues that are a concern of The American Legion. Our National Executive Committeeman Bill Crosier did an excellent job of being the spokesman for our group. It is our hope that our leaders in Washington D.C. will take favorable action on the legislative issues we discussed with them.

Lately I have been traveling all across the state of Nebraska attending as many of the District Conventions as I possibly can. When there are two and sometimes even three on the same day, it is just about impossible to get to all of them. I want to thank my Senior Vice Commander Gary Wooten for attending some of the District Conventions that I cannot be at. In future years, I hope a schedule can be worked out so that there are not quite so many of the conventions scheduled on the same day. Every District I have visited has done a nice job of putting on a good convention with a lot of good information being distributed to those attending.

This is the time of year that many of our American Legion Posts are having gatherings to celebrate the birthday of The American Legion. I have really enjoyed attending several of these celebrations. The hospitality, food, and entertainment is fantastic. There is a lot of outstanding work being done by our American Legion Family all across this great state. Keep up the great work!

“Working Together to Make a Difference”



Straight Talk

Philip Dittbrenner
Department Service Officer



WASHINGTON DC— House lawmakers on March 5th advanced legislation to improve tracking of troops’ exposure to toxic chemicals from war zone burn pits, but the real political fight over how to help those ailing veterans is set for later this spring.

A group of lawmakers led by California Democrat Rep. Raul Ruiz is planning a push to classify combat burn pit exposure as the presumed cause of a range of lung diseases for veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, opening the door for easier access to medical care and disability benefits.

The proposal is likely to face fierce opposition from VA leadership, which has emphasized the need for clear scientific links between war zone exposures and illnesses later in life before making large-scale benefits decisions.

The department’s official position is that “research does not show evidence of long-term health problems from exposure” to burn pits.

But advocates say those scientific shortcomings have more to do with poor monitoring than a lack of proof of the dangers that burn pits present. They point to a host of rare cancers, respiratory illnesses and other health problems among Iraq and Afghanistan veterans that cannot be dismissed as coincidental clustering.

We all know that the research for these conditions can take a long time, as they are still adding issues to exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam to this day.

There’s no perfect study, but there is enough evidence to determine there is a high enough suspicion of a link. We have veterans who are dying, so we have to act on that suspicion.

In recent years, much of the focus in Congress on burn pits has centered on improving research to inform future benefits decisions.

Recent legislation — sponsored by Ruiz and Rep. Brad Wenstrup, R-Ohio — would allow family members to submit information into VA’s Burn Pit Registry, giving the department information on veterans who passed away from suspected toxic exposure illnesses or who are too sick to access the list themselves.

Wenstrup said in a statement that the move will “ensure the VA has more accurate records for veterans exposed to burn pits, so we can better serve those with service-related illnesses.”

Nearly 170,000 veterans and current service members have entered information in the registry since it was launched five years ago. That information is invaluable, but that policy makers need to see that as a first step and not an end goal.

We can Compare the problem to the issue of Agent Orange exposure during the Vietnam War. VA has been really good at coming up with excuses as to why they shouldn’t be covering Agent Orange for so many years. Our Vietnam veterans understand that song and dance so much.

For the burn pit veterans, I hope we can move forward at a more rapid pace.

Centennial Celebration

Does your Post have any events planned for the 100th Anniversary of The American Legion? Be sure to notify Department Headquarters with the dates and information so we can post it on our Nebraska Facebook page and give Department Officers the opportunity to attend the events.

NEBRASKA AMERICAN LEGION

Department Headquarters Office

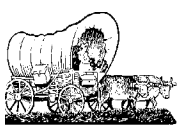
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Dist. 7.....	Dan Benes, Valparaiso
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Dist. 13.....	Ken Mandl, Tecumseh
Dist. 15.....	Gerald Wolf, Lincoln



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If you would rather receive the Nebraska Legionnaire by email or view it online, send in this form. The email and online edition of the newspaper is usually available a week or so before the paper arrives in your mailbox. All we need from you is your email address.

☐ I no longer wish to receive a printed copy of the Nebraska Legionnaire.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

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Mail this form to The American Legion, PO Box 5205, Lincoln, NE 68505 or you can email the information to afwashburn@windstream.net



It's History

Jennifer Salak
Department Historian



POW/MIA

Donald E. Nelsen
POW/MIA Liaison

American Legion Department of Nebraska History Word Search

A T S L P B A A M H C Y V J D
T K Y E A E K L E Y E J W S O
J N N G L L I H C R U H C S D
M V X I I S D Z H J L T C E G
M C P O S G E P I T K O X N E
O S Y N J S M W B V R W Z I O
O F K N W U E Z A N D L M S G
I C F A H Y L R H R Z W H U K
V J Q I O X U U G F D I H B H
Z M Y R K O S A L N W W G N M
N D K E V K V A U R O R A W F
L A P L E U Z Z S Y T C X D C
G Z Y R E X P K V B X E Q I H
V P S B O J B Q N T J P A F I
F D H D S Z B C N Z Y C T S S

Directions: Search up, down, forward, backward, and on the diagonal to find the bolded, underlined words described below.

- April/May 1929 (90 years ago)**
- Twelve years ago on April 6, **CONGRESS** made history when it declared war on Germany. Nebraska sent 58,523 of its sons into service and 1,653 paid the supreme toll.
 - “Buddies in **BUSINESS**” is a new initiative in the Nebraska **LEGIONNAIRE** to promote business for buddies who are active in trade either as a business owner or salesman. They are active members of their communities, they want your business and they deserve it. Look for the “Buddies in Business” sign in the window before making your purchases. Legion posts in **AURORA**, **SEWARD** and **YORK** are in the program.
 - E.C. **CHURCHILL** of Lincoln won the \$50 offered by Department Commander Jean Cain to the first Legionnaire to become the father of twin boys during his administration. The Churchill twins arrived on July 16, 1928.

- April/May 1939 (80 years ago)**
- Legion posts in the state are being urged to sponsor “Paint Up, Clean Up” campaigns in their communities as a means of providing **JOBS** for unemployed veterans and at the same time performing a community service by beautifying their towns.
 - **DODGE** Post 122 donated 160 trees to the city for its new 18-acre municipal park and numerous man hours of labor to help plant a total of 2,100 trees and shrubs in the park.
 - Plans are complete for the second annual **CORNHUSKER** Boys’ State to be held in Lincoln at the state ag college on June 10-17. At that time approximately 280 boys from all parts of Nebraska will assemble to spend a week learning the functions of government, to the end that they may be better Nebraska citizens in the future.
 - Approximately 4,000 trees were planted in **HUMPHREY** this year, by the 4-H and Forestry clubs, both of which are sponsored by the Legion post with a Legionnaire in charge.

2019 Department Convention
Make Your Reservations Now

The 2019 Department Convention will be held June 20-23, 2019 at the Ramada Inn in Kearney. The room rate is \$82.00 a night and breakfast is included with the rooms.

An agenda of the weekend’s events will be found in the June issue of the Legionnaire newspaper. If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Adjutant Salak at Department Headquarters.

Ramada Inn – 301 2nd Avenue, Kearney, NE 68847. Call 308-237-3141 for reservations.

Many forget about those who are still missing from WWI, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. We are committed to doing everything in our power to bring our heroes home for reuniting with their families, seeing they are taken care of to the best of our ability, and to the best wishes of the families. We are thankful there have been few POW's and MIA's in our current conflicts. We are grateful for the return of our veterans, and that the families can now reach closure.

The forensic team working at Offutt AFB have said the hardest part is after they make an id and call the family in to tell them. It is difficult to comprehend the emotions of these families.

We have such a hard time just discussing various things in our world. Look at the Civil War, brother against brother and family against family. Today there is a disconnect between those who are veterans and veteran connected and the rest of the world. When you look at the one or two percent who are veterans- we should be concerned. Who is this Veteran and how do they act and fit into our society? Pretty enormous and scary subject! While looking up various articles on POW/MIA's, I came upon a large number of articles that I disagreed with. Veteran service groups have to realize there are many who disagree with us and will do all they can to derail our goals.



I see you as patriots, who believe all should have freedom of speech and enjoy all the rights our constitution provides. We normally are respectful of others, and don’t insist that others agree with us. When others try to give us praise- we deflect it to others. We feel we do not want to be singled out as better than our fellow veteran. We can all see what a difference the military makes on us, as many of the businesses in the world want to emulate the military as to the comradery that this training brings to us. I have a good example of the above,

I just returned from the Washington Conference with the American Legion Family, many at their own expense. They were “on the hill” to meet with their representatives about veteran issues. Among them were issues relating to Gold Star Families and others to protect our veterans. The most important part is they were fighting for veteran family issues which would help our current military, not for themselves. Many have been going and doing this for years and need our heartfelt thanks.

We worry about others not ourselves. We work to help those who are hurting such as our POW/MIA families and continue to try to do the right thing. As we enter a time when almost all our World War II veterans are gone, when almost 50 percent of families were veteran oriented and are down to one or two percent; we must make changes. We can be against change as we age, but if we are going to continue to be leaders in our communities we must try. No one who has all the answers, but the American Legion Family has been a positive influence in our communities for 100 years. It is up to us to make this a better world in which to live and continue our work in the American Legion.



Osmond Post and Squadron 326 honored their Korean veterans with Quilts of Valor. Pictured front row (L to R) Arnold Gutz, Norman Lorenz, Gerald Kumm, Marvin Koehler, and Lloyd Timmerman. Back row (L to R) Wayne Blunck, Alton Fuelberth, Neil D. Bloomquist, Don Streich, Howard Timmerman, and Wes Kumm. Quilts were later given to WWII veteran Marlin Gansebom and Korean veterans Palmer Albers, Dale Blunck, Harold Krunkhorst, Vernon Buol, Donald Gloe, Arnold Hixson, Milford Kumm, Wendell Peterson, Charles Pfanstiel, Glenn Sazama, Ray Veik, Ron Aschoff, David Johnson, and Henry Schmit.



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Chaplain's Corner

Dr. William Jackson, Jr.
Department Chaplain



Discrimination

“Will ya take a look at that?” she said, holding onto her husband’s arm for dear life. “The NERVE of some people...” she kept on about something important or other...

“I know there’s no dress code here, but, THAT looks...hideous...I mean...well...you know what I mean...” another whispered in familiar company.

“Mommie, mommie. Look at Santa Claus man in those old, dirty clothes,” their little girl yelled out just as they were in the main foyer.”

Whether it’s theatre, an opera, a movie, a ballet, or a musical backdrop, people are people. They dress to impress...or not...Individuals and families have an image that reflects their earnestness about their flesh, their souls, and their spirit. But what else about human character that may set a person up for a major fall? How about...personal respect?



According to the Holy Scripture, God is NOT a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34), but humans are. So how does a person become Christ-like in their dealings with one another versus remaining Satan-influenced? No, we’re not talking about being possessed by a “legend” of devils. Every one has inherited original sin from our fore-parents, Eve and Adam (Genesis 3:11-13). I’m talking about those fleshly episodes of judging, discriminating, and otherwise building a case for someone else’s condemnation by the Lord. Here’s where Jesus brought up that thing about the beam in one’s own eye (Matthew 7:1). You know, the glass

house thing????

How about this issue: is one’s past as a felon, a divorcee, or a believer that fell from grace really a subject for you to dwell on with them—or behind their back—as some quirky measure of your self-righteousness before God? Is what one wears to church something for you to go on a rampage over, trying to stir up discontent about the target of your animosity? And how about that favorite of all humans, idle conversation, or plainly called gossip? Of course you’re not guilty of such a sinful thing, are you? Really? Are you sure?

What happened to that person who wanted to take a leading role in your American Legion Post, your Auxiliary, your Sons of the American Legion, or the American Legion Riders? Were they just not “right” for leadership because...let’s see...they served time in jail, they recently divorced, they don’t have any kids, they only attained an E-4 or O-2 rating in the military? Or maybe...you don’t like the way they look, smell, or some other critique of their personhood that “obviously” takes them out of the running to be a leader among you?

Obviously, I’m not talking about Nebraska Legionnaires, so it must be those Legionnaires “down the street.” What ever case of respect you find yourself in, remember that “there is no condemnation to them that are in Christ...” (Romans 8:1). And no judgment, too (Luke 6:37).

Ask the Chaplain
I invite you to share your questions and/or concerns with me anonymously...
402-613-9774 wcjdoc@gmail.com Instagram: williamcjacksonjr Twitter: @LegionNEChap

Department Convention Program

It’s time to start putting together our Department Convention Program and the Department is selling space in the program for individuals or businesses to advertise. Please ask around your community to garner support. All ads and payment must be received before June 10, 2019. The program is 8.5 x 5.5 in size. Please contact Amanda at Headquarters.

\$10.00	page split into eight sections
\$20.00	page split into four sections
\$30.00	Page split into two sections
\$60.00	Full page



S.A.L. Notes

Robert “Bud” Neel
Detachment Commander



The Detachment hopes everyone is ok after the snow storms and floods in Nebraska. This will take a long time to get all the repairs done. That was a lot of snow, wind and water we had to deal with this month. We hope Mother Nature is done for this spring. It may take until the end of April to dry up.

Children and Youth month is April. We hope you have something scheduled for our Children and Youth. Do not forget to record all the hours and donations for your Squadron Consolidated reports which are due to Department by May 1, 2019.

We are gaining on the membership. We only have 10 ‘0’ Squadrons and 2 of those have called me to advise they will be sending in memberships this week. Since it is only 4 months until we start collecting for 2020 membership dues, we are cutting this real close. We still have 5 Squadrons with 7 or less members.

On the other hand, we have received several new member applications. Our new members seem to be keeping us in the running. The Detachment is at #8 nationally. Only Maryland has more members than we do and we are neck and neck. The remaining Detachments have less memberships than we do. That means we have to work harder to stay ahead of their lower membership. Any help you can give us to keep this going would be appreciated. The sooner we get membership renewals done, the sooner we can work on recruiting, working programs or holding fundraisers for needed programs or Squadrons.

I have attended several District Conventions and have had a great time, even with the cold weather. Sorry, I missed the District 9 Convention and Callaway Legion Birthday party, something about my vehicle not being able to float. Every road to the south, west and some to the east from Wayne was under water, even I-29. Hoping the president Beverly and I get to attend District 3 Convention on April 6, since Beemer was water logged also.

Squadron Commanders and Adjutants, we are still missing some officer reports. With some phone calls we have been making, several numbers have been disconnected or the person we contacted is no longer in that position. I am not talking about every Squadron, just a few, double check you latest copy of officers and when it was sent in to Detachment.

Some good news, we have 4 new Squadrons as of March 9th. I was at District 2 Convention and Crofton asked several questions. I received word they voted to start a Squadron and either Mason City or Ansley called me to ask questions. Adjutant said they will have a Squadron at one place or another. That should make 6 new Squadrons. Thank everyone for filling in and answering questions and passing the word the SONS are here to help. We are here to help, a program of The American Legion, not take over The American Legion. “PROUD PROCESSORS of a PRICELESS HERITAGE”. If any other Legion Posts are interested in starting a Squadron, do not hesitate to contact the Detachment, me or my officers.

NOW HIRING!

Director of Behavioral Health and Outreach

We are seeking an individual who will be a passionate advocate for Nebraska veterans. Duties include:

- ★ Locating, applying for, and administering grants
- ★ Developing services with community partners and service providers
- ★ Conducting educational activities
- ★ Providing outreach
- ★ Answering veterans' questions regarding behavioral health services

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NEBRASKA

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VETERANS' AFFAIRS



Lancaster County Veterans Treatment Court

By Dr. William Jackson



What happens when honorably discharged veterans find it difficult to fit back in to their home communities after servicing America with the U.S. Armed Forces? Whether they were in combat, or doing other necessary and skilled specialties, a soldier, sailor, marine, airman, or coast guardsperson may sometimes do something...well...stupid...that lands them in jail. Of course, drinking or drugging did not help their cause, either. It may have been post-traumatic stress disorder as an underlaying factor, but for the most part, it's a reaction and bad decision-making to otherwise simple situations, sometimes known as poor impulse control.

Welcome to the Lancaster County Veterans Treatment Court (LCVTC) here in Lincoln, NE, where these honorably discharged veterans get a second chance to get their act together. There are judges, lawyers, counselors, and county probation officials who've stepped up to do just that for these veterans. But the biggest part of this program is you, the Nebraska Legion member, who also knows something about those LCVTC persons' trials-n-error to mesh back into their home country.

Officials like Dean Rohwer, a Lancaster County Parole & Probation officer, is in charge of veteran mentors—like me. This program needs you to stand alongside those LCVTC persons to counsel and share experiences that will give your mentees hope and success to process through their lengthy program to once again be on their own, with their families and friends.

If you're up to it, I hope you are, contact Dean Rohwer at dean.rohwer@nebraska.gov or 531-220-6031.

Volunteers for Baseball Tournament

Hastings Post 11 has been selected to host the Mid-South Regional Baseball Tournament in 2019 at Duncan Field in Hastings.

Russ Kindig of Post 11 is looking for volunteers to help with the tournament. The Regional Tournament will be held August 7-11, 2019. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Russ at russ.kindig@5pointsbank.com for more information. Check out hastingsbaseball.org if you would like to learn more about the tournament.



National Poppy Day – Friday, May 24, 2019



Poppy Day is celebrated in countries all around the world. The American Legion brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day.

After World War I, the red poppy became the symbol of the blood that was shed during the battle. On September 27, 1920, it became the official flower of The American Legion Family.

On May 24, wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform. **EVERYONE CAN HELP!** Anyone can participate in National Poppy Day®. Here are a few simple ways:

- Download the Communications Toolkit from www.legion.org/poppyday, which is full of great information.
- Ask your local government to sign a Poppy Day Proclamation.
- Wear a red poppy all day and tell everyone why.
- Distribute poppies to friends, co-workers and family and tell everyone why.
- Collect donations at your workplace to give to Poppy Program.
- Tell the story on Facebook of who you are wearing your poppy to remember or support on National Poppy Day. Don't forget to tag us! #PoppyDay #LegionFamily
- Accept a poppy and make a donation if you see a member of The American Legion Family in your neighborhood distributing poppies.

Let's share the word about this very important day with our friends and families and continue to find ways to promote the American Legion Family's Poppy Program.



Past Commanders and Presidents of the District 6 American Legion Family are pictured at the District 6 Convention (L to R) Mary Lee Konz, Barb Meyer, Bill Crosier, Renee Van Winkle, Mike Reimers, Doug Boldt, Lori Reimers, Rich Lemmerman, Vicki Cyboron, George Cyboron, and Mary Ann Boldt.



The 89th Annual District 13 American Legion Family Convention was held at the Shubert American Legion. Pictured is Alternate NECman Fred Craigie addressing the Legion and Sons members present.

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Legionnaire in the Spotlight

Wilma E. Kellogg



Wilma E. Kellogg was raised on a farm near Palmer, Nebraska and was the youngest of eight children. The children attended a country school two miles from their house and they had to walk down the dirt road. On special days, she got to ride in the back of a lumber wagon instead of walking. In sixth grade, Wilma began attending the town school.

Kellogg began nurses College at St. Francis School of Nursing in Grand Island after high school. She wanted to become a nurse because she had fallen from a hay loft trying to find some kittens when she was a kid. The doctor and nurse that helped fix her broken arm were so good at their jobs and so sweet that she wanted to be like them one day. While in school, she can vividly remember the Senior Nurse walking up and down the halls of the dorm on the afternoon of December 7, 1941 announcing, "We are at war!" She knew right then that all of the nurses in the program would be heading to war after they graduated.

In 1942, Kellogg graduated from nursing school and went to join the Army Nurse Corps. They advised her to get a nursing job for more training and they would notify her when she was needed. She worked for a year and a half as a nurse at a hospital in St. Louis, and in early 1944, Kellogg was sent to Wisconsin for Officer Training. She was assigned to the 239th General Hospital Unit and was shipped out in the summer of 1944. Kellogg's unit

was one of three that was put on a ship from Nova Scotia, Canada, to Scotland. During the seven-day journey across the ocean, she never was allowed on to the deck of the ship and spent her time with the other nurses in the hole of the ship.

Kellogg recalled that in November of 1944 while stationed in France, her unit was following behind the front battle lines and would help out anyone in need, including German citizens in towns along the way. The nurses slept in tents close to the hospitals and she can remember that rats would run across their floors and bunks at all hours. Clothing for the Army nurses was much different than when they were home in the states. They would wear green pant suits and high boots that would keep the mud out of their feet and at home they wore white jackets and a starched white nurses cap. When her unit had to be moved, they would travel by truck from place to place with all of their belongings and the medical equipment. When the unit was in France, Kellogg remarked, "We had no idea what was going on, we just did what we were told."

The first major battle that Kellogg remembers supporting is the Battle of the Bulge. The battle took place from December 16, 1944 to January 25, 1945. No planes were able to get to the battle for many days because of the weather, so most of the battle was fought between tanks and hand-to-hand combat. She said she can still remember all of the frozen feet of the American soldiers and almost everyone she looked at had frost bite. Supplies for the soldiers was slow and many of them did not have adequate socks and boots to keep their feet warm and dry. Kellogg told of a miracle new medicine, penicillin, that could cure the soldiers who had severe infections and wounds in just a few days. She had never used it before and she was shocked by the things it could do.

When the war in Europe ended, members of the medical units stayed in Europe and continued to take care of the wounded. It was about nine months before Kellogg and her unit were brought back to the states. Kellogg remembered sending her trunk with her nice green wool coat home to her parent's farm before she was sent home. By the time Kellogg returned to Palmer, her sister-in-law had taken the green wool coat from the trunk and was using it to go out and slop the hogs in.

Following her discharge from the Army, Kellogg worked as a nurse at the Grand Island VA Hospital for 28 years. She retired from the VA at 66 years old. Kellogg began to volunteer at the Grand Island Veterans Home, the Stuhr Museum, and Trinity Lutheran Church. She traveled to Alaska, Niagara Falls, the Gardens by New Orleans, and many other places. She participated in the 2012 Honor Flight to Washington D.C. Kellogg is a charter member of the Women Veterans Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery and was at the memorial for the dedication. She has a scholarship named after her from Central Community College. The Women Veterans Scholarship in Honor of Wilma Kellogg is awarded to a woman veteran or an active duty woman military member who is pursuing a degree.

Kellogg has three children that she raised by herself. Her daughter Elizabeth retired from the Army, her son John retired from the Air Force, and her daughter Christine who is a retired teacher. Kellogg believes that everyone should continue their education. The more education that you are able to get the better. She also believes that government service is a good thing and that we live in a great country and that everyone should want to serve. Kellogg says that women are outstanding leaders and they can do anything that they set their mind to. She is a 60 year life member of Palmer Post 120. Kellogg is pictured with her son, John, and daughter-in-law Barbara.

"Legionnaire in the Spotlight" is a new section each issue. Please send in submissions to Amanda at afwashburn@windstream.net or mail them to Headquarters. Please limit them to 800 words and two pictures. Please call Amanda at 402-464-6338 with any questions.



Riders

Casey Walton

Department ALR Liaison



Hello Legion Family, I hope all is well in your world. Spring is just around the corner and the motorcycles are getting more chrome and accessories put on them to prepare for the summer riding season. This will be an exciting year with several things going on state wide.

We will have the Mountain West Romp in Chadron, Nebraska this year. The people of Chadron are preparing right now and are sending out invitations to all the Legion Clubs in a 500-mile radius. The date for the Romp will be June 6-9. Tentatively the schedule for this



event begins with registration Thursday evening at 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, the Legion bar will be open, and we will continue to accept registrations through Saturday. Friday, we have planned a day ride for those arriving early and a free BBQ in the evening. Saturday will begin with a poker run through the Black Hills and the surrounding area and the days event will conclude in the evening with a roast beef dinner, door prizes, and entertainment. The Romp will end Sunday morning with coffee and donuts and bike blessing before Riders head home. All events and meals are included in the cost of registration. For more information you can contact Kathy Stokey at kathystokey@gmail.com or call 308-432-3282. Look for additional information on Facebook. com/Chadron Legion Riders.

Also, our Legion Riders State Romp will be in Gibbon this year on July 12-14. I will post more information on this romp later on the Nebraska American Legion Riders Facebook page. Please try to attend one or both events. The Romps are events where we can all get together and compare things that we do within our chapters that work well as far as fund raisers and ways to honor Veterans. It is a time to let your hair down and have some fun. We as Legion Riders invest a lot of time and money doing what we do. All investments must have a return on investment. Attend the Romps, have some fun, and find something within your Chapter that you can do that makes you feel good about yourself.

We are using the Quilts of Valor group to honor the WW2 Veterans in our area. And I have started posting a local elderly Veteran on Facebook as the Hero of the week and am including their military bio. The local community reads this and are starting to send me their relatives' information for me to post. This is all part of my return on my investment.

My time as State Liaison is starting to wind down. I served two years as the Assistant Liaison for Western Nebraska and now two years as State Liaison. It's been a real rewarding experience. At the June meeting the incoming State Commander will appoint a new State Liaison and that person will then appoint his or her 4 assistants for the areas we currently have in our state. Everyone please keep up all the hard work and be proud to be part of a top-notch organization.

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*This is only an outline of the plans services. Please review your Member Guide carefully. EA+ is not insurance.

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From Your American Legion Department



Adams, John W., Superior, WWII
Andariese, Dennis R., Auburn, Vietnam
Andis, George R., Millard, WWII
Ayers, Elroy C., Oakland, Korea
Bachman, Neal, Lincoln, WWII
Bals, Robert G., Madison, WWII
Beckstrom, Marvin D., Springfield, Korea
Bennett, Ted F, Norfolk, Vietnam
Bentz, Roger P. Sr., Homer, Korea
Blum, Walter R., Herman, Vietnam
Boeshart, Dean F., Norfolk, Vietnam
Bowen, Vaughan R., Hebron
Brandenburg, Darrell G., Springfield, WWII
Brewster, Dennis G., Butte, Korea
Bridge, Richard, Hay Springs, Korea
Brothers, Herman B., Neligh, Vietnam
Browning, Chares C., Imperial, WWII
Burge, Calvin L., Blue Hill, WWII
Burghardt, Larry D., Omaha, Vietnam
Busteed, George L., Elgin, Vietnam
Connely, James W., Blue Hill
Dale, Edward W., Millard
DeHaven, Donald D., Hay Springs, Korea
Dorn, Virgil W., Beatrice Vietnam
Dorn, Virgil W., Beatrice, Vietnam
Eggleston, Glenn E., Oconto, Korea
Ehmke, LeRoy L., Omaha, Vietnam
Eilers, Bob, Nelson, Korea
Einspahr, Eldean L., Campbell, Korea
Eischeid, Henry T., Ralston, Korea
Erks, Dennis L., Seward, Vietnam
Fiene, Ernest E., Elwood, Korea
Fuchs, Dale J., Platte Center, Vietnam
Geray, Bernard J., Jackson
Gilg, Robert J., Newport
Gilbert, Keith B., Blue Hill, WWII
Glen, Axthelm E, North Platte, WWII
Gnirk, Edward A., Norfolk, Korea
Godberson, M. Brandt, Gibbon, SAL
Gonzalez, Salvador, Omaha, Korea
Govier, George, Grand Island, Korea
Grant, Donald R., Lincoln, WWII
Grayek, Francis L., Lexington
Green, Richard, Valentine, WWII
Gregory, Freddie L., Ralston, SAL
Griffin, John J., Plattsmouth, Vietnam
Groteluschen, Larry G., Monroe, Vietnam
Gutgsell, Francis L., Omaha, WWII
Hallett, Bernard G., Millard, Vietnam
Hambek, John J., Spencer, Korea
Higgins, Ronald, Beatrice, Korea
Hope, Robert, Millard, SAL
Hornbeck, Harold E., Papillion, WWII
Huenink, Alvin, Denton, Korea
Hull, Dale L., Gordon, Korea
Hultquist, Harold R., Oakland, WWII
Humliceck, Victor L., Yutan, Korea
Humpal, Marvin C., Butte, WWII
Hunke, Bernie E., West Point

Hurtig, Raymond V., Norfolk, Korea
Hutchinson, Warren A., Lincoln, WWII
Jacobs, Charles H., Omaha, Korea
Jewell, Norman W., Lincoln, WWII
Jochum, Leo A., Norfolk, Korea
Johnson, Gregory A., Cody, Vietnam
Johnson, J. J., Hay Springs, WWII
Jordan, Darold L., Omaha, WWII
Kasperek, Dale, Plymouth, Vietnam
Kimberly, Calvin D., Omaha, Vietnam
Kleinbeck, Bill, Millard, Viietnam
Knoche, Keith W., Beatrice, Korea
Koinzan, Walter L., Elgin
Kotrous, Tom, Columbus
Kreuger, Dale F., Winside, WWII
Kreuscher, Allen, Beatrice, Korea
Krupicka, Alfred, Milligan, WWII
Kumpf, Roger L., Omaha, Vietnam
Lamb, Chester A., Mason City, Vietnam
Langmacher, Donald D., Paxton, WWII
Leetch, Kenneth, Grand Island, Korea
Leitschuck, William, Monroe, Vietnam
Logan, Bernard G., Lincoln, Korea
Luebe, George H., Pierce, Korea
Luesebrink, Steven L., South Sioux City, SAL
Lundy, L., Duane, Valley, Korea
Luzum, Dwayne, J., Milligan, Vietnam
Marsh, Ronald L., Omaha, Vietnam
Mazzuca, Frank, Omaha, Korea
McDaniel, Robert, Norfolk
McGill, John P., Omaha, Vietnam
McGowan, Charles F., Grand Island
McManaman, Edward J., Spalding
Merrill, William A., Columbus
Messersmith, Keith, Farnam, Korea
Meyer, Clyde F., Omaha, Vietnam
Meyer, Larry D., Silver Creek, Vietnam
Mitchell, Merlin H., Pleasant Dale, Vietnam
Mohr, Dale J. H., Bennington, Korea
Moser, Marvin, Hickman, WWII
Mueller, Donald A., Gretna, Korea
Nelson, Donald J., Lincoln, Korea
Neubauer, Delmar, Osmond, WWII
Novotny, Wendell, Saint Paul, SAL
Nuzum, Bill, Bellevue, Korea
Parry, Ricahrd W., Omaha, Korea
Pearson, Emil J., Davenport, WWII
Pella, Richard V., Tecumseh, WWII
Peters, Donald F., Hay Springs
Pfeifer, Charles T., Millard
Pfeifer, George J., Butte, Vietnam
Pierson, Marcus E., Ewing, Korea
Podany, Jeff, Millard, SAL
Porn, Edward F., Lincoln, WWII
Prosser, Donald T., Ralston
Pursell, James C., Superior, Vietnam
Radil, Robert E., Omaha, Korea

Rafferty, Rowdy L., Seward, Vietnam
Rathman, Merlin, Wood River, Korea
Reiman, Edward D., Holdrege, Korea
Reum, Jack, Dwight, Vietnam
Reznicek, Dennis E., Louisville, Vietnam
Rippe, Gordon L., Lincoln, Korea
Ritterling, Larry G., Deshler, Vietnam
Ritzdorf, Bob, Howells, SAL
Robotham, Robert P., Milford, Vietnam
Rothell, George E., Lincoln, Korea
Ryan, Edward M., Kearney, SAL
Simpson, C. Kenneth, Falls City, SAL
Sawyer, Wayne W., Orchard, Korea
Schauland, Ole, Syracuse, SAL
Schmid, Ivan D., McCook, Korea
Schmidt, Robert L., Millard, Korea
Schoen, Robert H., Beatrice, Korea
Scott, J. B., Hay Springs, Vietnam
Sears, James E., Lincoln, Vietnam
Serr, Gerald C., Sutton, Vietnam
Siebrass, Martin J., Blue Hill, WWII
Soucie, Dean, Lodgepole, Persian Gulf
Spahn, Lyle G., Lincoln, WWII
Spangler, Jerald D., Ewing, Vietnam
Splittgerber, Val Gene A., Omaha, Vietnam
Staib, Bernard, Madison, Korea
Statler, Danny L., Benedict, Vietnam
Stauffer, Orlen L., Beaver Crossing, Korea
Stiefvater, Dennis B., Yutan, Korea
Svoboda, Frank E., Howells, Korea
Temple, Leo, Gering, Korea
Theisen, Lavern A., Hastings
Thomas, Charles E., Laurel, Vietnam
Thomas, Clarence J., Lincoln, Korea
Trede, Gayle E., Ralston
Vandersnick, Dennis L., Ewing, Vietnam
Votruba, Lloyd J., Hemingford, Korea
Walgren, Raymond G. Sr., Hay Springs, WWII
Walters, Mike E., Gordon, Vietnam
Weber, Gerald J., Holdrege, WWII
Wedding, Roy, Cortland, Vietnam
Welch, Claude, Omaha, Korea
White, James H., Papillion, Korea
Williams, Clarence E., Wallace, WWII
Winslow, Robert, Wymore, WWII
Wirges, Bernard, Petersburg, Korea
Wittmuss, Wilbert W., Papillion, WWII
Witulski, Dean D., Denton
Wormuth, William, Blue Hill, WWII
Woznick, Richard W., Loup City, Vietnam
Wright, Ross E., Minden, Korea
Yardley, James A., Hemingford, SAL
Yoder, Will, Wauneta, WWII
Younghans, Virginia A., Hershey, WWII
Zade, Wayne, Orleans, Vietnam
Zitek, Marvin, Dwight, Korea

Events Calendar

April

Children and Youth Month
5-7 National Oratorical Finals - Indianapolis
19 Good Friday - Office Closed
21 Easter

May

5-9 Spring Meetings - Indianapolis
12 Mother's Day
18 Armed Forces Day
24 National Poppy Day
27 Memorial Day - Office Closed

June

2-8 Cornhuker Boys' and Girls' State
10-13 Junior Law Cadet
14 Flag Day
16 Father's Day
20-23 Department Convention - Kearney

Sons of The American Legion Membership As of March 15, 2019

District	2018 Members	2019 Members
1	274	225
2	523	533
3	218	209
4	352	320
5	131	127
6	1,399	1,257
7	680	581
8	1,036	854
9	261	261
10	279	218
11	1,024	891
12	230	192
13	148	139
15	176	156
Total	6,731	5,963



Howells Post 122 presented newly signed up Post member Mike Schlautman with his Post 122 cover. Pictured top (L to R) Norman Fendrick, Post Commander Jerry Schulte, Mike Schlautman, and Dennis Svec. Pictured below (L to R) Leonard Brune is presented with a meritorious pin from Post Commander Jerry Schulte. Brune received the award for his year of service to the Post and its programs.



Chadron Post 12 and the Nebraska Gold Star Mothers presented Sallie Cashon, a 97 year old WWII veteran, with a Quilt of Valor.



Brunswick Post 357 member Antonio Todd was presented with a Quilt of Valor from his grandmother Margaret Moss, an Auxiliary member of O'Neill Unit 93.



DeWitt Post 212 presented Quilts of Valor to two World War II veterans. Pictured top (L to R) Russell Zimmerman, Ervin Beerenstrauch, and Post Commander Glen Pieper. Post 212 also presented certificates for continuous membership. Pictured middle (L to R) Robert Eggert, 35 years, Glen Pieper, 50 years, and Steve Klostermeier, 50 years. Pictured bottom (L to R) Larry Stokebrand, 10 years, Commander Glen Pieper, and Howard Powers 50 years.



Hemingford Post 9 member Alan Danbom was presented with a Quilt of Valor by Unit 9 and Chapter 9. He is a World War II veteran.



Sidney Post 17 presented Owen Kurz with an American flag in honor of Kurz achieving his Eagle Scout. Pictured (L to R) Dale Dickinson, Post Commander Les Larson, Owen Kurz, Al Jung, and Scoutmaster Brain Kurz.



Crete Post 147 member Bob Lorenz visited with Crete Auxiliary member Alma Strain at the Wilber Care Center.



Elkhorn Post 211 and Elkhorn/Waterloo Unit 211 provided cake for the welcome home event at the Elkhorn High School for the 561st Regional Support Group of the US Army Reserves.



Herman Post 274 member Robert Peterson was presented with a Quilt of Valor from the Blair Bunch Quilters at the Veterans Day celebration held in Blair.



Gordon Post 34 held a ceremony for Four Chaplains Sunday on February 3 to remember and honor the four chaplains who gave their lives on the USAT Dorchester during WWII. The story of the Four Chaplains was presented, and community religious leaders were given certificates for their service.



Falls City Post 102 presented the Kenny Simpson Award for Excellence in Firefighting to firefighter Jon McQueen. The award is named for late Fire Chief and Post 102 Commander Kenny Simpson. Pictured (L to R) Trevor Wisdom, Mike Mirelez, Commander James Liming, Ben Simpson, Tim Daniels, Jon McQueen, Jr Wisdom, Tami Simpson, Nicole Mason, Gary Jorn, and Matt Beer.



Elwood Post 290 presented certificates of continuous membership to its members. Pictured top (L to R) District 9 Commander Mel Divis, Goeffrey Bogle, 40 years, Jay Beck, 50 years, Dick Bennett, 50 years, and Commander Duane Kelly. Other certificates were presented to Glen Bower Jr. and Cloyd Clark 45 years, Harry Billings and Carlton Clark 40 years, and Marty Caig and William Pedersen 30 years. Quilts of Valor were presented to Post members. Pictured below (L to R) Kathy Beck, Loyle Debban, Jay Beck, and Marissa McClung.



Randy and Mike Jess were presented Quilts of Valor at the Saline County Convention in Dorchester. Pictured (L to R) Randy Jess and Mike Jess.



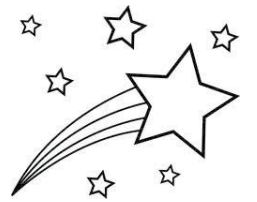
District 4 Sons Squadrons presented Department Commander Lyle Bartels with a check for \$115.00 to the TFA program. Pictured (L to R) Pete Cawiezel, Mitchell 124, John Lintz, Gering 36 Adjutant, Mark Ernest, Dalton 301 Commander, Eldon Kramer, West Area Vice Commander, and Commander Lyle Bartels.



The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Nebraska

The Star

April - May 2019



Veterans – Our Soul & Heart's Inspiration

Hello, Members.

Well, we are half way through our year and now it is time to get down to the brass tacks and get our reports into Department. Every entity of our organization has a duty to report, report, and report some more. Our deadline is April 20th. But, as usual, if you can beat that deadline

(APRIL 20TH) by four or five days, the better it is for the materials to be assembled and presented to the Department Chairs in a timely manner. Your support and assistance are greatly needed in the reporting process.

Every Unit, Every Member, does something. Do not think what you do is not “good enough” to report --- everything we do is worthy of our time and efforts to continue to do what we do, why we do it, and why it is important to those whom we serve. No one can tell a better story than those who have been there, done that, and have first-hand knowledge and experience in the story. So,

ladies, roll up your sleeves and start the process of reporting your stories for the books. The Program Chairs have been directed to select a “Best of the Best” narrative in their respective program to highlight and, hopefully, be recognized on the Department and National levels. Ladies, this is a doable challenge; and I do expect to read some great stories. Each and every one has merit and worth because it comes from the heart and with helping hands in Service, Not Self.

Ladies, it has been a wonderful journey thus far; and we will bring it to the stage at Department Convention June 20 – 23, 2019 in Kearney

once again. We have some new ideas to share and some new approaches to our processes, and we want you there to witness and participate in them first-hand. Plan today to attend and carpool. Carpooling is a great way to share ideas and ask the hard questions and get a variety of responses.

EVERYONE coming to Department Convention is asked to bring a poppy corsage and a door prize with at least a \$5 value. Everyone will go home with a prize and perhaps a new poppy as we have a poppy corsage exchange. If you like someone else's corsage, you are able to switch it with yours. It will be fun to see if you can

return home with your own corsage or have a new one to add to your collection.

Until next time, remember “Veterans – Our Soul & Heart's Inspiration” rings true in Nebraska. God Bless!.

Beverly A. Neel

Department President.



Beverly A. Neel
Department of Nebraska
President
American Legion Auxiliary
2018-2019

MERELDA DREYER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY



Merelda Dreyer celebrated her 90th birthday with a surprise party in February.

Merelda has been an active member of the Rushville American Legion Auxiliary for the last 30 years. With two sons in the service, she decided to join the Auxiliary. She's been Secretary/Treasurer since 1984. She's also been Kitchen Supervisor for the last ten years and has been the Blood Bank Drive coordinator for the past 22 years.

Merelda was born and raised on a farm near Canova, South Dakota. At one point in Merelda's life, she decided to start making small Blue Star Door banners for families who had service men and women on active duty. She has made over 100 of these for this area as well as on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Merelda stays active in the Auxiliary, her church, and with her family of three children, nine grandchildren, and seventeen great grandchildren.

Thank you, Merelda, for being a part of Rushville and for being a patriotic, proud American.

APRIL IS VOLUNTEER MONTH



THANK YOU

Cornhusker Girls State 2019 Election Volunteers Needed We Want You!

Plans are underway for Girls State 2019, and we need your help. Election volunteers are needed to help ensure that the election procedures run smoothly and efficiently.

Volunteers are needed on the following dates and times:

Monday, June 3, 2019 - Filing for Office - 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 - Primary Election - 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 5, 2019 - General Election - 8:45 to 10:45 a.m.
(all times are approximate – location is University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Courtney Rempe at Courtney.Rempe@gmail.com or 402-560-6194.

Those who volunteer will receive more information in mid-May

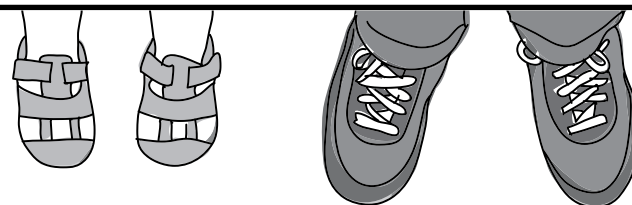
PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY AWARDS

Do you have a special member in your unit who continues to work very hard for our American Legion Auxiliary programs and has never taken an office higher than Unit President? Why not nominate her for **Member of the Year**?

Do you know a Nebraska Service Woman who is currently serving our country in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard? Why not nominate her for the **Salute to Servicewoman** award. The nominating person or nominated service woman creates a narrative or YouTube video (3 minutes or less) that demonstrates exemplary service both in and out of uniform.

Best Mentor Award is a Nebraska award that recognizes someone who has mentored you or others. This could be someone that has helped along the way in your unit, district, or at the Department level. Write a paragraph on how this person has helped you and submit it to dalbers727@gmail.com.

Member of the Year and Salute to Service Woman award applications and instructions can be found in alaforveterans.com/awards. All three of these awards applications must be submitted by April 20.



19TH ANNUAL MIRACLE MILES FOR KIDS WALK-A-THON

Sponsored by
American Legion Post 27
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 27
Sons of the American Legion Squadron 27
Legion Riders
Beatrice, Nebraska

**Come join us
June 15, 2019**

9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.
Refreshments
Veteran's Club
701 Dorsey Street
10:00 a.m. Walk-A-Thon
3 Miles or whatever is possible

For additional information or to send
Donations please contact

Marian Melcher at (402) 239-0746
1114 S 6th
Beatrice, NE 68310
Children and Youth Chairman

ATTENTION UNITS

When it comes time to submit your 2020 Poppy Orders, remember that units are NOT EXEMPT from paying state/city sales taxes on the poppies ordered. We have a few units marking their form as being exempt, and that is simply

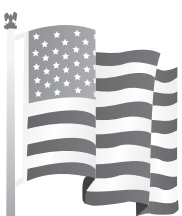
not the case. So, be sure you are submitting the proper amount, inclusive of taxes, on your next order. Poppy orders are due by November 1, 2019. Look for order forms after August 1, 2019. Thank you.



Elwood Unit #290 gathered and filled 21 purses to donate to Lexington's Parent Child Center. The “Purses with a Purpose” project is part of the state Auxiliary program that donates purses to local agencies that target homeless women. Auxiliary members pictured (L-R) are: Eleanor Nott, Varetta Remmenga, Becky Elliot, Maria Atterberry, and Lola J. Debban.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Please send articles and pictures for future editions of “THE STAR” to Lorene Bartos, Editor at 7441 San Mateo Lane, Lincoln, NE 68516 or email to: ALATheStarNE@yahoo.com. Send photos as jpg attachments. Material for the next issue needs to be submitted by May 10, 2018



NATIONAL SECURITY

It is April and time for those reports!

In the last newsletter sent from Department to the Unit Presidents was a list of activities that units could use to include in their annual National Security report. Please look over those activities and add any other types of activities that your unit does for active duty personnel and their families. Remember to include in your report the amount spent, the hours spent, and the number of service members or others served. National Security and disaster preparedness are important to keep our country strong.

Not every unit can do everything, but every unit can do something --- and usually does it well but doesn't take credit. Those units that do extraordinary work in this area should consider applying for a National Award. Use the cover sheet found in the ABC Book, fill it out, and send it into Department.

Remember --- REPORTS ARE DUE APRIL 20!

Kathy Mazur
National Security Chr.



Elwood Unit #290 presented \$100 to the Pre-K class at Elwood School. Auxiliary President Maria Atterberry presented the donation to teacher Jami Garey. The presentation is part of the Auxiliary program "Give 10 to Education."



The Beatrice Unit #27 awarded Quilts of Valor to Elizabeth Shotkoski-Jurgens and Tami Schmidt, who served in the Marine Corps; and to Erin Schoen, who served in the Air Force.



Special thanks and acknowledgement are extended to Unit 11 from District 10 and the Department of Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary for a large donation for the baby grand piano for the Central Nebraska Veterans Home.

Also, thanks to the District 10 American Legion and Auxiliary for the big valentine party, which included food, prizes, a king and queen, and a band. Thank you again.

VOLUNTEERS
Have all the Right Ingredients!

SNACK PACK

Act II Popcorn
Because we're bursting with gratitude for your support

Mounds Bar
For the mounds of praise you deserve

Pretzels
Thanks for being someone we can count on in a crunch

Cup of Soup
Because you warm our hearts with your commitment

Mini Chips Ahoy
Because you're always willing to chip in with a helping hand



Gene Thomsen, commander of the Plainview American Legion, and Lois Gloe, president of the Legion Auxiliary, are pictured holding an ad that appeared in the Plainview News honoring the American Legion on their 100th birthday and honoring our veterans. The ad was sponsored by the American Legion and Auxiliary.



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 170 member Claudia Brown (center) of Oakdale was presented a Quilt of Valor at the Auxiliary meeting in Tilden. The quilt was made by Janet Todd (right) of Brunswick, who --- along with the Tilden American Legion Auxiliary --- presented the quilt to Claudia. Also picture Joanne Rudnick (left) unit President

Claudia is a veteran of the U.S. Navy and served on active duty as a nurse. Claudia is very active in volunteering and serving others. She is well known for her homemade pies and cookies. She has made over 700 clothing protectors and donated them to the Norfolk Veterans Home.

Members and guests attended from Tilden, Meadow Grove, Neligh, Oakdale, Norfolk, and Brunswick.

2018-2019 CENTERPIECE AND TRAY FAVOR ASSIGNMENTS

	GI V.A. Med Center 10 Cntrpc	GI Veterans Home 215 Tray Fav	Bellevue Eastern NE VA Home 24 Cntrpc	Norfolk VA Home 20 Cntrpc	Western NE Home 13 Cntrpc	Western NE Home 90 Tray Fav	Omaha Med Center 75 Tray Fav
February	#176 Blue Hill	#316 Elm Creek	#353 Louisville	#264Sr Dorchester.....	#7 Alliance	#7 Alliance	#354 Pleasant Dale
March	#110 Dwight	#218 Exeter.....	#171 Milford.....	#283 Platte Center	#352 Deshler.....	#163 North Platte ..	#1 Omaha
April	#257 Eustis	#225 Eddyville.....	#355 Denton	#62 New Castle	#230 Thedford	#364 Naponee.....	#232 Malmo
May	#19 York	#193 Ohiowa	#3 Lincoln.....	#243 Plymouth	#213 Wallace.....	#213 Wallace	#49 Utica
June	#251 Arcadia.....			#302 Leigh.....	#12 Chadron	#12 Chadron	#235 Union
July.....	#335 Davenport	Girls State		#155 Howells.....	#133 Culbertson.....	#133 Culbertson ...	#197 Eagle
August	#38 Ord.....	Girls State		#175 Jackson	#36 Gering		
September ...	#145 Bloomington.....	#141 Hampton		302 Leigh.....	#36 Gering		#289 Tablerock
October.....	#38 Ord.....	#310 Gibbon		#307 S Sioux City	#36 Gering	#166 Bruning.....	#243 Plymouth
November.....	#198 Daykin	#225 Eddyville.....	#288 Farnam	#307 S Sioux City	#288 Farnam	#137 Gurley.....	#20 Fremont
December	#166 Bruning	#218 Exeter.....	#353 Louisville	#357 Brunswick.....	#17 Sidney	#17 Sidney.....	
January	#198 Daykin	#141 Hampton			#7 Alliance		
February				#283 Platte Center			
Rising City will be doing tray favors at Omaha V A Med Center in March also .							
Service to Veterans Chairwoman: Vicki Colson Ph: (308) 289-4836 - Email: colson.vicki@yahoo.com							



AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND (AEF)
MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

No one ever thinks a disaster can happen to them – but it does happen to everyday people, just like you and me. Thanks to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF), which provides temporary financial assistance to eligible members during times of financial crises or weather-related emergencies and natural disasters, there is hope.

Members whose membership is in good standing for the current year and the prior two years may apply for an AEF

grant. Numerous grants are given every year to deserving ladies who encountered a hardship.

Funding for AEF grants is achieved by “Members Helping Members.” It is up to all of us to donate to help support this worthwhile cause. How can you help? Hold a fund-raising march. Place a canister clearly marked with “AEF Donations” at your local post or businesses. Earmark this program for annual unit donations. The options are endless. The important thing is

that we all do our part to make sure funding is available for our Auxiliary sisters.

Beautiful AEF pins are available for those who donate \$50 or more, with pins to be presented during Department Convention. Several national awards are also available for the largest donations per capita for unit and department.

Thank you for your continued support of this outstanding program.

Barbara Washburn
AEF Chairman

GREETINGS FROM
DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT LINDA PATCHEN.

This is my first year as District President. I am a member of the Shubert Unit 222. We are down in the southeast corner of the state. There are 13 units in my district. My Vice President is Amanda Washburn. The Secretary/Treasurer is Doris

DeJonge, and the Chaplain is Ruth Hietbrink.

We just had our District 13 Convention in Shubert on February 16, 2019. It was a good turn out with President Beverly Neel and three other department officers present.

We are working on Girls State orientation and Department Convention in June.

All the units have been working hard on getting membership in and recruiting new members.

Linda Patchen



The District 5 Convention was held on March 10th at Paxton. Installed as new officers by ALA Department Historian Barbie Meyer were (L-R) Chaplain Hazel Gifford, Secretary/Treasurer Pat Heinemann, District 5 Vice President Terrie Haworth, and District 5 President Vicki Colson.



Vicki receiving the gavel from installing officer Barbie.

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Spring is here, finally!

As we enjoy the warming temperatures, it is a great time to get the Juniors active and involved. Some days to focus on and do projects this Spring are: Legion birthday parties, Easter, Poppy Day, and Memorial Day. And, of course, don’t forget the upcoming Department Junior Meeting.

Department Junior President Briana Capek’s project is to purchase “Joy for All Companion

Pets.” These pets are life-like robotic cats and/or dogs. They have voice activating sensors and respond to voice and touch. Cats purr and meow, while dogs will bark and wag their tails. These pets will take the place of real pets that some veterans are not able to care for. Briana hopes that the pets will bring relaxing comfort, joy, and a sense of wellbeing to the veterans who receive them.

The Department Junior

Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 19th, in Milligan. Registration begins at 12:30. Briana is planning a fun-filled day! So, bring your Juniors --- active or not.

Don’t forget that year-end reports are due April 20th. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 402.759.2157 or at rcandcc2@yahoo.com.

Carol Capek
Junior Activities Chairman



Elwood Auxiliary Unit President Maria Atterberry honored continuous members Betty Ronnau (30 years), Sharlyn Wilson, Jane Jack, LeAnne Robson, Kim Eggers (35 years), Bernice Rhinehart (70 years), Maxine Leggott, and Pauline Christensen (75 years). The Auxiliary members support the American Legion and honor the sacrifice of those who served.



The 100th birthday of the American Legion was celebrated March 17, 2019 at the TCDC in Trenton, Nebraska. Special guests were the 2018 Girls State attendees and their families who shared a potluck dinner. Following the dinner, Sammy Carfield (right) and April Wagner (left) gave very good reports of their experiences in Lincoln. They are both looking for the opportunity to serve as counselors someday and encourage Juniors to apply for a chance to attend.

AMERICAN LEGION
CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

The Crete American Legion Post 147 and their guests gathered at Veterans and Friends on Tuesday, March 5, to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The American Legion.

The evening’s festivities were hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 147. The Commander’s room looked festive with the tables decorated in red, white, or blue tablecloths, colorful patriotic centerpieces, and napkins.

A Welcome by Auxiliary President Gerry Johnson started off the evening followed by the flag salute and recitation of the Preamble. Doane University student Katelyn Pohlmann sang two patriotic songs --- The Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America. A wonderful meal featuring smoked pork chops and chicken breasts was prepared by Mike Wolverton and enjoyed by all who attended. Two birthday

cakes baked and decorated especially for the occasion were served for dessert.

Several Legion and Legion Auxiliary dignitaries were in attendance and were introduced by the Auxiliary president. Guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Fred Brown, President Emeritus of Doane University. He reminded the audience of the many accomplishments the American Legion has made over the years to promote Americanism and make our country a better place to live. He also recalled the fun he had playing American Legion baseball during the summers of his youth.

The evening concluded with the Response by Legion Post Commander Tom Crisman, who spoke of the accomplishments of the local post. Auxiliary Chaplain Doris Galbraith closed with a prayer.



The 89th Convention of District 13 was hosted by the Shubert American Legion/Auxiliary and the Humboldt Harvey Mann Post #269 American Legion/Auxiliary on Saturday, February 16, 2019. Department President Beverly Neel was a guest speaker.

MEMBERSHIP

Did you recruit 5 Junior or Senior members this year? How about 25 Senior members? If you did, please fill out the National Recruit 5 or Silver Brigade Award forms and mail/email them to Department HQ in Lincoln before May 1st. You will receive a special gift and be entered into a drawing for \$250

from National.

I moved! If you are mailing me your reports, please send them to my new mailing address at PO Box 34, York, NE 68467. Reports can also be emailed to me at angiefoster214@gmail.com.

Angie Foster
Membership Chairman

NEBRASKA AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY--"WE CAN DO IT"
TOP 13 DISTRICT
PLANE FACTORIES IN NEBRASKA

District	Plane Being Built:	2019 Goal	Total	% of goal
2	Curtiss Kittyhawk	2136	1831	85.72%
1	Grumann Wildcat	1502	1277	85.02%
11	Brewster Buccaneer	2384	1992	83.56%
12	Bell Airacobra	1774	1480	83.43%
13	Ryan FR Fireball	724	599	82.73%
7	Douglas Devastator	2016	1665	82.59%
3	Lockheed Lightning	1109	915	82.51%
5	Vought Vindicator	861	704	81.77%
8	Martin B26 Marauder	1949	1566	80.35%
10	Douglas A26 Invader	1401	1117	79.73%
9	Boeing Flying Fortress	696	551	79.17%
6	Boeing P26 Peashooter	2649	2078	78.44%
4	Republic Thunderbolt	772	590	76.42%
500	*Douglas Banshee*	*38	*38	*100%
TOTAL		20,011	16,403	81.97%

Who can get their plane built first? 100%

CHAPLAIN'S CONNECTION

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’

This is another way of saying “Service, not self.” As American Legion Auxiliary members, we have a mission to support the weak. That includes active military, veterans, their families, children and youth, and our communities, state, and nation. This also includes our fellow members. All of us have weak moments. Nothing warms the heart like knowing that we have brought peace, joy, and comfort to those we serve and those we serve with. We become the American Legion Family.

Prayer ~ Heavenly Father, please help us to remember your words and to always be ready to give our best. Remind us to share what we have and to know that You will be there to take care of us all. In Jesus name. Amen

Pat Wiseman
Chaplain

thank you

Dear American Legion Auxiliary,

Thank you all so much for the dedication you put into your Purses with Purpose. Your generosity will help us provide essential items to the individuals we serve. We greatly appreciate your donation!

Sincerely,

The S.A.F.E. Center Staff,
Volunteers, and Board of Directors



DATES TO REMEMBER	
April - Children and Youth Month	
Girls State/Boys State Orientations by District	
7-13	National Volunteer Week - Thank you volunteers!
20	Postmark deadline for Unit Annual Reports to Department
21	Easter
May	
Girls State/Boys State Orientations by District	
10	Articles due for the June issue of “The Star”
15	Military Kids Day - Wear Purple
12	Mothers’ Day
27	Memorial Day - Department Headquarters closed
FOR YOUR ADVANCED PLANING	
June 2-8, 2019	American Legion Auxiliary Cornhusker Girls State, Lincoln
June 20-23, 2019	Department Convention Ramada Inn, Kearney, NE
August 23-29, 2019	National Convention, Indianapolis, IN

2019 ALA GIRLS STATE ORIENTATIONS			
District	Date	Time	Location
District 1	Sunday, April 28	2:00 PM CT	Valentine Post #90 256 N Main St. Valentine, NE
District 2	Sunday, April 28	1:00 PM	Neligh Post#172 115 W 3rd St. Neligh, NE
District 3	Sunday, April 28	1:30 PM	Emerson Hubbard HS Emerson, NE
District 4	Sunday, May 5	1:00 PM MT	Dalton Post #301 430 Wano St. Dalton, NE
District 5	Sunday, April 28	2:00 PM	Hershey HS 301 Lincoln Ave Hershey, NE
District 6	Sunday, April 7	1:00 PM	Centura HS 201 N State HWY 11 Cairo, NE
District 7	Sunday, April 7	2:00 PM	Ashland Post #129 1541 Silver St Ashland, NE
District 8	Sunday, April 7	2:00 PM	Valley Post #58 111 E. Front St. Valley, NE
District 9	Sunday, April 7	2:00 PM	McCook Evangelical Church 602 E 14th St McCook, NE
District 10	Saturday, April 27	3:00 PM	Windmill in Minden 521 N Colorado Ave. Minden, NE
District 11	Sunday, April 28,	2:00 PM	Wilber Post #101 898 School St. Wilber, NE
District 12	Sunday, April 28,	2:00 PM	Weeping Water Post #237 301 West Eldora Ave. Weeping Water, NE
District 13	Sunday, April 28	2:00 PM	Falls City Post #102 721 Harlan St. Falls City, NE
Lincoln Area	Sunday, May 5	2:00 PM	Lancaster County Extension Center 444 Cherrycreek Rd. Lincoln, NE

Nebraska Junior ALA,

Thank you for the snowmen! The members enjoyed them! It was so thoughtful of you. Thank you again!

Western Nebraska Veterans Home

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Thank you for your donation of 30 Purses with Purpose to the Parent-Child Center. You are making a difference in the lives of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Parent-Child Center
Lexington, Nebraska

Flood Disaster Support

Your American Legion Auxiliary is there for you. We are praying for and extending a helping hand to all those across Nebraska in the storm and flood-damaged areas. Let us know how we can help.

Keep safe

NEBRASKA STRONG

TRIVIA

1. Nebraska has had four National Auxiliary Presidents. Can you name them and where they are from?

ANSWERS TO MARCH TRIVIA

1. Kansas and Nebraska were the first two states to conduct Girls State.

2. Nebraska’s first Girls State was held June 10 – 15, 1939

3. It was held at Camp Kiwanis between Lincoln and Milford

4. Party affiliation (Nationalist/ Federalist) was designated by Blue and Yellow Scarves.

5. Virginia Ford of Omaha was Nebraska’s first Girls State Governor.

In Memoriam	
Received Feb. 10 to March 10, 2019	
Betty Ruff.....	Omaha..... 1
Carol J. Eckwall.....	Omaha..... 1
Joyce Dimmitt	Lincoln..... 1
Doris Ferris	Norfolk..... 16
Delaine Horn.....	Norfolk..... 16
Mary J Pieke.....	Norfolk..... 16
Florence D Larson	Norfolk..... 16
Margie Simpson	Norfolk..... 16
Elaine J Kirkland	Norfolk..... 16
Cathryn S Richards	Norfolk..... 16
Sandra K. Dieter	Norfolk..... 16
Amy Allen	Wymore..... 25
Irene Burbach	Omaha..... 31
Vanita M Arndt.....	Omaha..... 31
Mary A Hans.....	Omaha..... 31
Delores E Krebsbach.....	Lawrence..... 45
Joyce Sievers	Plattsmouth..... 56
Jane D Anderson.....	West Point..... 70
Dianne Bechtold	Syracuse..... 100
Mary McConnell	Mullen..... 109
Marilyn Hytrek	Stuart..... 115
Marilee J Sullivan.....	St Paul..... 119
Margie Kucera	Dodge..... 122
Eleanor Krenk	David City..... 125
Dorothy Morgan.....	David City..... 125
Jean Lemmon.....	Crawford..... 138
Beverly Hergott.....	Hebron..... 180
Geneise R Braun	Hebron..... 180
Helyn Sibert.....	Red Cloud..... 238
Barbara Marcy.....	Hay Springs..... 239
Sylvia Shea.....	Arcadia..... 250
Berdelle Ludden	Lindsay..... 261
Janice M Hemberger.....	Kenesaw..... 268
Virginia M Hanson	Madrid..... 271
Linda Thompson	Hershey..... 279
Jackie Uhri.....	Table Rock..... 289
Dorothy M Nelson.....	Potter..... 291
Marilyn Burnham	Burwell..... 298
Glendora Ingraham.....	Burwell..... 298
Arlene Dunning	Spalding..... 299
Dorothy Forre	Bellwood..... 327
Diana S Kellams	South Omaha.... 331
Courtney L D'Agata.....	South Omaha.... 331
Margaret Seier	Petersburg..... 334
Donna J Stevens	Havelock..... 342
Janelle C Schmale.....	Garland..... 369
Agnes A Bohuslavsky.....	Valparaiso..... 371
Evelyn Winters.....	Millard..... 374
Bonnie E Denney	Millard..... 374
Patricia J Muckey	Millard..... 374
Phoebee Barto	Dakota City..... 376
Loleta C. McFee	Dakota City..... 376

MUSIC

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

Hello, Members.

We are so ready for the snow to stop, the flowers to bloom, and the sun to shine. Music in the meantime can help us through the “blues” of the winter/spring mix. When we share music with those around us, it brightens their day, brings a sparkle to their eyes, and a remembrance they may have let pass and now it has returned.

School choral and band concerts are fast approaching with the end of the school year, and our units can assist these programs through monetary donations, volunteering on bus trips, or sending a treat to the kids and instructors for all their hard work.

Make these last couple months a memory for our youth that the American Legion Auxiliary has taken notice of their talents and celebrate with them by attending the concerts, visiting the school plays, and just giving the kids a “job well done” reward. They will remember that we were there and that we shared ourselves with them.

So, wrap up the “winter blues” by attending the youth performances to show we care and appreciate their time, talents, and sharing with us.

Have a great day and whistle a happy tune. Enjoy the great hymns of the Easter season as well.

Louise Wheeler
Music Chair